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October 1st, 1981 ★ Volume 16, Number 39 ★ 16th Year of Publishing ★ SEVENTY-CENTS

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 16, Number 39 **October 1st, 1981**

Features:

NATIONAL SCENE ..... Al Ristori 8
Fish Talk:
OCTOBER WINNER ..... William A. Muller 10
Surf Fishing:
FALL FOR A BLUE ..... Gerald Hahn 12
Old-Timer's Corner:
LETTERS ..... Matt Ahern 14
Captain's Table:
HEARTY FISH FILLETS ..... Eileen Regina 16
OCTOBER REPORTS ..... Fred Guardineer 17
GREAT SOUTH BAY BULLDOGS ..... Herb Buch 18
A LURE FOR ALL SEASONS ..... Einar F. Grell 20
BUCKTAIL POUCH ..... Pete Barrett 22
MAKING WIRE LEADERS ..... J. Chad 24

Departments:

Pass It On 4
Bumper Sticker Contest 9
Fishing Reports 26
Fisherman's Classified 48
Tide Tables 51
Solunar Tables 51

About the Cover—

The blackfish fleet begins to assemble over Great South Bay's Kismet Reef on a crisp, October day. See the article on page 18.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **FALL GRAB BAG**

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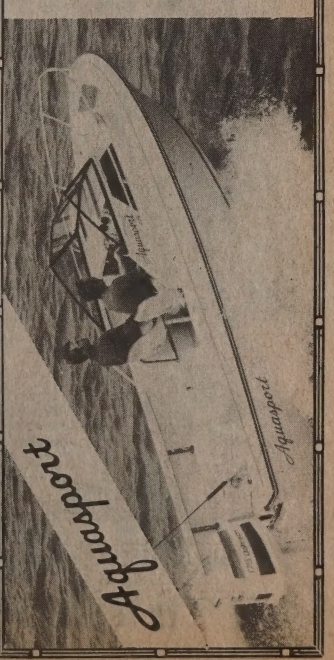

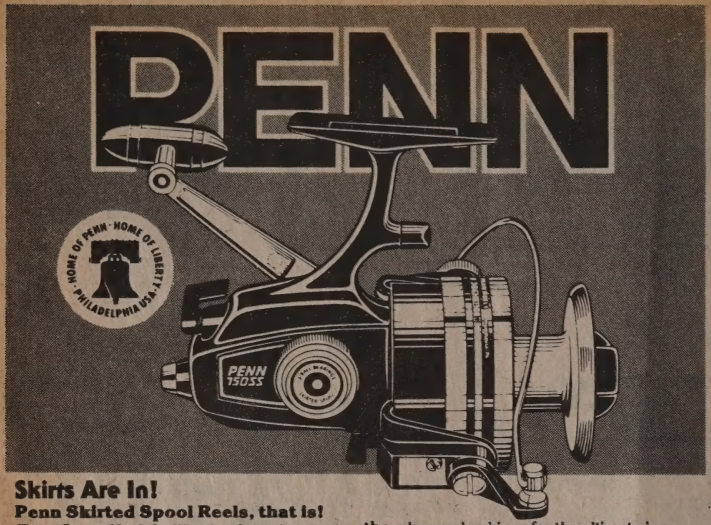

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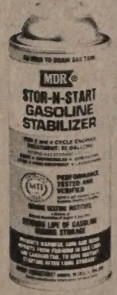

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Pass It On...

GATEWAY/HIGH HILL INTERCLUB CONTEST

Gateway Striper Club is pleased to announce that it has held its first ever interclub contest with High Hill Striper Club. This was an important step for both organizations as it proved to be a good beginning in an effort towards increased communication and good fellowship between all fishing clubs on Long Island. We would like to thank the following members who particiated. From Gateway: Ed Wolfe, Bill Silletti, Frank Ranazzi, Jack Mendler, Chuck Nemser, Sam Chuy, Joe Moreno, Joe Augeri, Ron Turbin, Vin Reilly, and John Marsillo. From High Hill: Joe Vetrano, Ed Wood, George Cross, Bob Rance, Tom Fitzimmons, Bob Buss, Bill Muller, Paul Pepe, Bill Green and George Nieves.

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB SNAPPER DERBY RESULTS

The Patchogue Fishing Club Snapper Derby was held at Pine Neck Dock in Patchogue. Teams consisting of senior members and a junior guest or member fished for two hours and whichever team caught the most snappers took first place, second most second place, etc.

The winners are as follows: 1st place: Bill Rockwell and son Ben; 2nd place: Carl Dippel and son Chris; 3rd place: Jim Curto and daughter, Ms. Curto.

A good time was had by all.

TUNA BATTLE ABOUT TO BE WAGED

The legislative battle to protect tunas in U.S. waters is now ready to be waged in both Houses of the Congress.

On September 10th, Representatives James Howard (NJ) and Claudine Schneider (RI) introduced H.R. 4457, a bill to amend the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (FCMA) to include tunas under the 200 mile limit. The House bill is identical to the Senate version, and bears the same title—the American Tuna Protection Act.

H.R. 4457 is co-sponsored by Gerry Studds, Nicholas Marvoulis and Brian Donnelly of Massachusetts, William Hughes and Peter Rodino of New Jersey, William Whitehurst of Virginia and Guy Molinari of New York.

Tunas, most notably Atlantic bluefin but including yellowfin, bigeye and albacore, are being fished intensely by foreign fishing fleets inside the U.S. 200 mile limit. This heavy fishing pressure is negating American conservation efforts to restore populations of these species to a healthy state.

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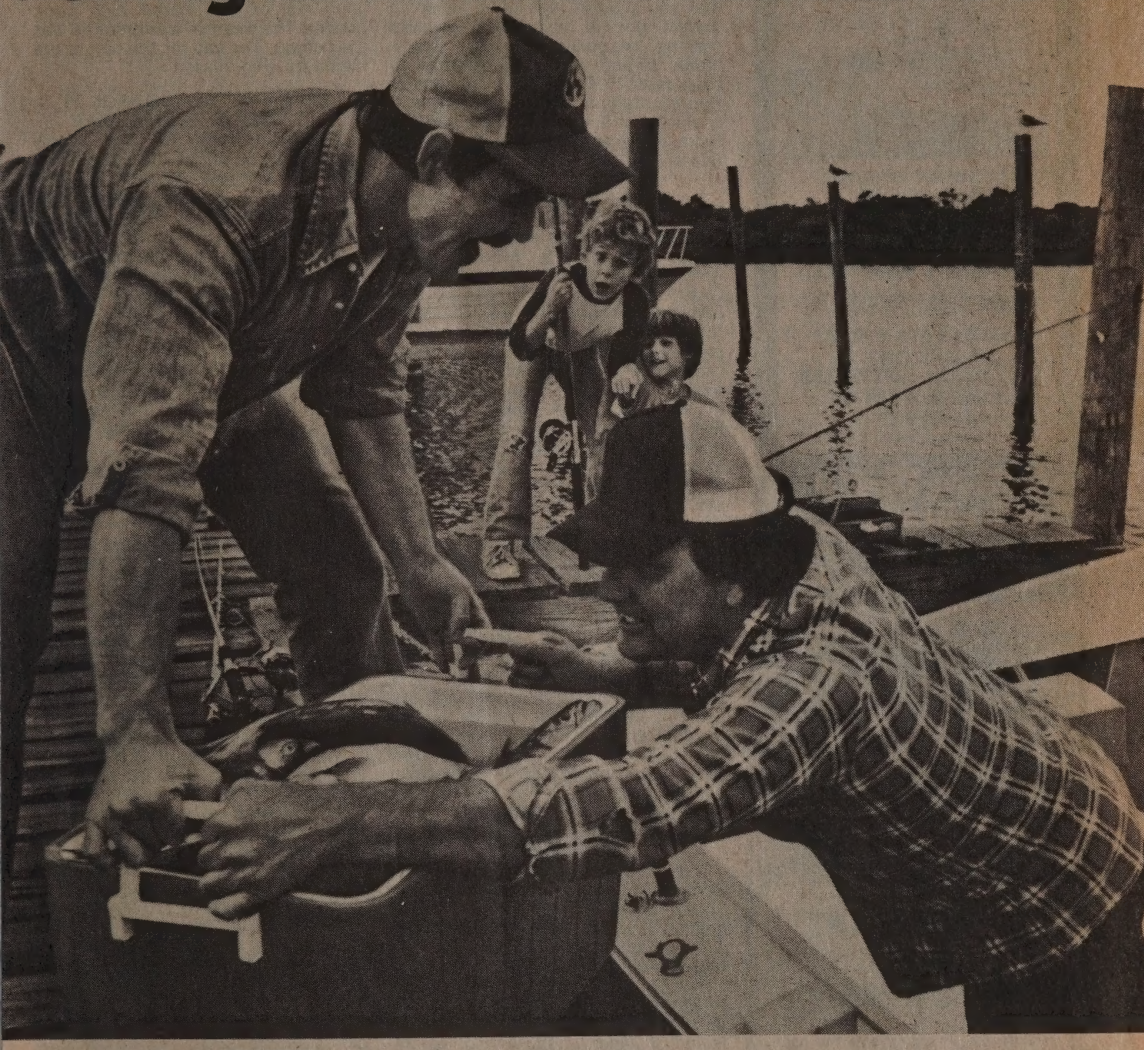

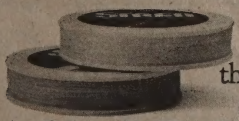

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This situation is only possible because of a loophole in the FCMA, which excludes tunas from U.S. management. And the only way to rectify this situation is by amending the FCMA to include tunas under U.S. management authority.

Let your Congressman know today that you support legislative action to protect one of our most valuable marine resources—tunas. Write today, urging your Congressman to co-sponsor H.R. 4457 in the House of Representatives. And don't forget to contact your Senators as well, and ask them to support S.B. 1564 in the Senate.

NEW MODERN MARINER'S MANUAL

Modern Mariners Training Services is publishing a new "Modern Mariners Manual" which will be available October 23, 1981. This manual is a home study course for those who wish to obtain a U.S.C.G. license to carry passengers for hire. It is also good reading for those who wish to acquire additional boating knowledge (safety at sea being the major concern). Every mariner will be able to understand this because all consideration has been given to each chapter in very basic language.

Dozens of illustrations and working problems are included. The contents are as follows: Inland/International regulations; Seamanship, Weather; Chart Symbols, Buoy System; Speed/Distance/Time; Compass Navigation; Fire Fighting; Life Saving Equipment; First Aid; Oil Pollution. Plotting problems (Loran/basic navigation) will be sent with each book. The manual can be obtained for $22 by sending a check or money order payable to: Capt. Irv Levine, P.O. Box 365, Oakdale, N.Y. 11769. (Students will receive this manual at no charge.)

PLAN FOR NOW FOR INVITATIONAL CODFISH TOURNAMENT

The All-Clubs Annual Invitational Codfish Tournament, hosted by the Squaw Island Fishing Club, will be held on Saturday, November 14, 1981, with an alternate date of Sunday, November 15, 1981.

The Tournament is open to all clubs entering one to four boat teams. All entries will leave and enter Fire Island or Jones Inlets; weighmasters will be at Frank & Dick's Bait and Tackle in the State Boat Channel and at Mako Marine in Freeport.

Prizes will be Penn International Reels, awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd heaviest codfish and 1st, 2nd and 3rd total weight.

Entry fee is $60 per boat. Last date for entry is Thursday, November 5, 1981. For registration and further information, contact Mr. John Suss at 516-661-5936.

MERRICK ROD & GUN CLUB

The Merrick Rod & Gun Club held its annual Bluefish Trip on the Aloma II sailing from Freeport, Saturday 9/12, at 6:30 p.m. Twenty-two members and guests attended. Fishing 17 Fathoms, over 250 blues were caught. The father and son team of Joe and Bob Rostowski took the pools with fish of 15 and 16 lbs. Club President, Paul Kimbley; Club V.P. Kevin (snore away) Meehan, and John Konior Jr. shared high hook honors. The weather was great as was the fishing. Too bad for the rest of the members who missed out.

SEVEN "V" OUTBOARDS IN JOHNSON 1982 LINEUP

The Sea-Horse® 235 h.p. model remains at the top of the line for the fifth year in a row. Johnson 150, 175 and 200 h.p. models complete the range of engines for 1982 in the V6 category.

The Johnson V4s will include 90, 115 and 140 horsepower models and, like the V6s, are available in long (20") and extra-long (25") shaft lengths.

Engineers for Johnson have redesigned the primer system on the Vs to improve cold starting. This was done by moving the primer nozzles from the bypass covers to the intake manifold.

The V4 and V6 gear cases will also incorporate an integrated pitot tube to operate a speedometer on the 1982 models. This eliminates the transom mounted pitot tube that could trail air bubbles into the propeller disc resulting in ventilation or collect weeds and other trash thus giving an erratic reading.

The V6 motors will have two factory-installed sacrificial zinc anodes to ensure maximum anti-corrosion protection. Provisions have also been made on the V4s for both anodes to be available as accessories.

The seven engines in the V series will continue to feature patented pressure-back piston rings, patented water shielded exhaust, dual Mag-Flash® electronic ignition, temperature and pressure controlled cooling and much more.

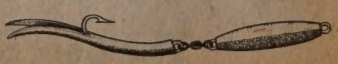
ZEBCO'S 6000 ULTRA-LIGHT

Zebco's new little brother to the 6000 series, the 6000 ultra-light, sports a fast 4.4:1 gear ratio and features the smooth, wide-range Straight-Line drag.

The new 6000, weighing in at just 7.6 oz., holds 130 yds. of 4# mono, or 210 yds. of 2# mono.

The Zebco 6000 skirted spool spinning reel features smooth ball bearings, internal bail trip with manual override, and a folding handle that converts easily to right or left hand retrieve.

For additional information on Zebco's new 6000, as well as the entire 1982 Zebco tackle lineup, contact Chuck Roberts, Zebco Division Brunswick Corporation, P.O. Box 270, Tulsa, Okla. 74101.



New *Dual Console* Tournament 22's:

When the going gets rough, they beat center consoles 2 to 1.

The new Grady-White *dual console* Tournament 22's give you all the advantages of the center console design and more. You get the center console's access forward, self-bailing cockpit and seaworthy hull design. But, with *two consoles* instead of just one, our three new Tournament 22's offer more aft cockpit room, more storage, and the protection of a full windshield, top and side curtains for when the going gets rough.

Two to one it's the best 22-footer you've ever fished.

More protection, more storage, more aft cockpit room.

The dual consoles in our Tournament models are further forward than the traditional center console location, creating a larger, self-bailing aft cockpit for fighting fish. And, with a full windshield and canvas options you can fish rougher, colder weather.

Plus, two consoles mean more fishing features. Three big insulated boxes are built in. You can adapt to more fishing situations with 10 rod storage holders. And lockable storage in both consoles and four big tackle drawers keep your gear organized and ready. Add the built-in bow area casting platform, anchor locker and insulated box and you have one whale of a fishing boat.

Add it up. Our Tournament models are a 2 to 1 favorite.

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NATIONAL SCENE

Watt Controversy Continues

by Al Ristori

As noted in this column a couple of weeks ago, Secretary of the Interior James G. Watt has his supporters in the fishing fraternity—as well as his detractors. The National Wildlife Federation is leading an effort to have Watt fired from his position. Among the other environmental and conservation organizations supporting that attempt are the Sierra Club and the Izaak Walton League of America. On the other hand, beach buggy fishermen are delighted with the attitude of the new Interior Secretary and are actively rallying to his defense.

Additional support for Watt has been provided in a resolution adopted by Safari Club International. That organization praised Watt's stand against excessive regulations, particularly those which have impeded sport hunting. A Utah outfit called Outdoors Unlimited, a consortium of resource and recreation organizations, has also come to Watt's aid with a petition effort called the "Two Million Friends of Jim Watt" Club. Marlene Simons, President of Outdoors Unlimited, Inc., can be reached at P.O. Box 373, Kaysville, UT 84037.

Dingell/Johnson Controversy Goes On

Another issue presently dividing fishermen involves the expansion of the Dingell/Johnson Fund, a proposal which has been detailed a couple of times in this column. Basically, it involves the expansion of the present 10% excise tax on most fishing tackle to include such presently non-taxed items as line and tackle boxes—and the addition of a 3% excise tax on most boats of 25 ft. or less, plus outboard motors, boat trailers, and various boat accessories. This would greatly increase the fund, which is used to provide matching funds to the states for fishery projects, boat access sites, etc. The expansion bill also provides that saltwater projects receive a fair share of the revenue even where saltwater anglers aren't licensed.

Most of the boating industry and the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA) have come out against the expansion bill, but a powerful coalition of sport fishing organizations is working for the legislation. There have even been some cracks in the armor of the boating industry, as both Hydra Sports and Coleman have declared in favor of the expansion. Several tackle companies are also in support of the legislation. The latest to come on board is Sheldons' Inc., maker of Mepps spinners.

According to a press release put out by Sheldons', that company has paid excise tax on lures since 1952—when they sold only 24,000. Last year they sold over seven million Mepps spinners and paid over $500,000 in excise tax. Sheldons' notes that right from the beginning "we have felt payment of this tax was necessary for the growth of our business and industry. We have seen lakes Michigan and Superior change from virtual aquatic deserts to perhaps the largest fishing and boating market in the country. Lake Erie was in far worse condition, and now the walleye fishery in that lake is unexcelled. These fisheries have received substantial funding via excise taxes. In areas less fortunate than the upper Midwest, hundreds of lakes have been constructed and over 3,000 boat launching areas have been built through Dingell/Johnson programs...

"Statistics show that 80% of boats and motors sold are used for fishing. According to a recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Survey, 6,400 new boating access areas would be built if additional funds were available. The boating industry has benefited from Dingell/Johnson through lake development programs and increased access facilities. It is time they began sharing the cost!"

On the other hand, the latest issue of "Outdoors Unlimited" (the outdoor writers newsletter) includes a couple of very strong negative opinions on this issue. Charles Conner, publisher of "Waterfowler's World" suggests that the 3% excise tax on boats would not be equitable since it doesn't necessarily provide any benefits to boaters.

Conner urges sport fishermen to follow the lead of waterfowlers and establish organizations such as Ducks Unlimited. What such organizations couldn't provide on the private level could be taken care of by the states through a requirement to purchase special stamps in order to fish for specific species.

John Viehman, editor and publisher of "Canoe" magazine argues that paddlers shouldn't have to support sport fishing. He claims that relatively few paddlers also fish from their canoes and that they won't even benefit from the boat access areas that are being used to justify the D/J expansion to powerboaters. With this legislation now coming to the forefront the pros and cons of the Dingell/Johnson expansion will be debated with even greater force and we'll do our best to keep you informed about the latest developments.

Northern Giant Tuna Daily Limit Increased

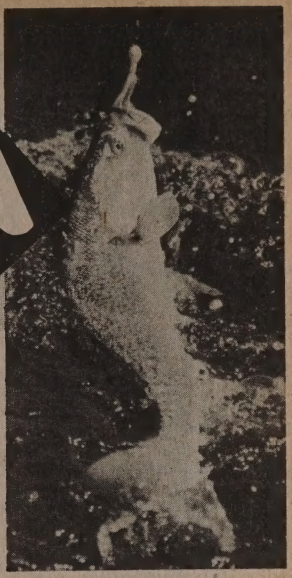
Despite a late season surge in the giant tuna fishery, the goals for meeting the northern area quota (Cape Cod north) haven't been reached. As a result, NMFS Northeast Regional Director Allen E. Peterson, Jr. announced on Sept. 7 that the daily limit for giants has been raised to four fish per vessel from the previous limit of three. This doesn't apply to vessels registered in the charter and harpoon boat categories in the northern area—nor does it affect the five giants per week limit on boats in the southern area.

As of September 7, the northern catch was about 925 fish, or 38% of the 2,400 giant quota. Any figure at that time less than 60% of the quota would have been enough to trigger the increase in the daily limit to four fish. At the time this is being written, there is outstanding giant tuna fishing off Block Island and pretty fair fishing in the Mud Hole off the north Jersey coast. With fish coming in as fast as they are right now, there is the distinct possibility that our small quota could be filled. As I suspected might happen earlier this year, handliners have moved into the Block Island area. Fortunately, the tournaments made it under the wire; but if the sportsmen of this area don't get together and pressure NMFS for a change in the system this winter we may well face a disastrous situation next year.

Rep. Howard Introduces Tuna Protection Bill

Representative James J. Howard (D-NJ) has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives which would include tunas under the protection of the 200-Mile Limit law. This bill is similar to the one introduced in the Senate by Lowell Weicker (R-CT). Lou Figurelli reports that Rep. Guy Molinari (R-Staten Is.) has already signed up as a co-sponsor. Many more co-sponsors are required. Please urge your Congressman to sign up now!

L.I.F. BUMPER STICKER CONTEST



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WIN A FREE TRIP ON ONE OF THE OPEN BOATS LISTED BELOW.

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Send a stamped, self addressed, business size envelope to L.I.F. and we will send you a *FREE*, great new 3" x 9½" bumper sticker. Place it on your car's bumper. If spotted by our staff, you'll be eligible for the weekly prize. The winning license plate number will be printed each week. If you see your plate number, call and identify your car by the make and color and you're a winner! You must call by 5PM Wednesday of the following week your plate number appeared in order to win. Our phone number is (516) 725-4200.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING NUMBER IS:

179-HBP

LAST WEEK'S WINNER IS:

No call was received by the Wednesday deadline, therefore there is no winner for last week's L.I.F. Bumper Sticker Contest.

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	FREEPORT	SHEEPSHEAD	NO. SHORE	SO. SHORE
JIGGER III	Capt. LEITCH	CAPT. AL	FLAMINGO III	NORTH STAR	CHINCO
VIKING FLEET	JIB FLEET	CAPT. BILL	DOROTHY B	APACHE	Capt. CLARK II
MARLIN IV	Capt.	SUPER SPRAY	PILOT II	EVER READY	CASEY LEE
	BOB JOSEPH	ALOMA II		EBB TIDE III	WILHELRIC II
	Capt. SCOTTY	STARSTREAM II			COMMODORE
	Capt.	Capt. LOU FLEET			
	BEN LITWIN	Miss FREEPORT			
	CAPT. ROD				
	CAPT. JOSEPH				

OCTOBER WINNER

by William A. Muller

MICHAEL H. GRANT of New York City is our October winner. Mike sent along a type of question that we haven't seen before and we believe the information related to his letter will be of interest to many fishermen. As writers, we sometimes fall into the trap of taking certain things for granted. Especially vulnerable and likely to be overlooked are the things that we've been doing for many years. Tying rigs falls into this category. Sure, we describe the bottom rigs and we say and show how to make them, but do we ever explain why?

"THIS LETTER HAS BEEN LONG overdue, so I'm writing now to let you know I have a question. I'm thirty-three years old and I've only been fishing for three years. Since I don't get to go fishing as much as I'd like, I utilize the information in LIF articles and news reports to give me a little edge. So far, things are working out all right because this year I caught my first weakfish, even though they weren't jumping on everyone's line. So, I want to thank you for guiding me along. Although I'm still a novice, I sometimes snell my own hooks and make up rigs for various types of fishing. According to what I've read and seen, porgies, blackfish, and flounder are caught on 12" leaders, cod on 18" leaders, and fluke and weakfish on long 36" leaders. What I would like to know is what effect do these various lengths of leaders have to do with catching fish? This question has been puzzling me for quite sometime, so I would appreciate anything that you can say to shed light on this matter. You should also know that I have asked the question of Matt Ahern and I'm sure that between the two of you I'll get a good answer. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend to you my personal thanks for the information that you have provided in your articles. The reward for reading your column has been fish in the box and a more, well-rounded knowledge of the fishing game."

AS OF THIS WRITING we haven't seen a reponse to your question in Matt's column, although it did strike me that it might be interesting if we both comment on the question without discussing it between us first. Perhaps we'll all learn a little. First of all, there are no hard and fast rules about leader length and the actual sizes of leaders in use varies a lot from one fisherman to another and from place to place. However, there is a general rule of thumb involved and that is the design of a bottom rig and the length of the leaders is related to the feeding habits of the fish you are seeking and the conditions under which you must fish. For example, it is generally true that leaders for blackfishing are on the short side. In fact, you mention 12"; yet I've fished where that would be too long. Still, blacks can be wary customers and shy off a hook if they can sense unnatural hardware close by. Therefore, over the years I've fished for blacks once in awhile where the bottom wasn't too rugged and, therefore, we had the luxury of using long leaders. In that case I used 18" leaders and the shy blacks were much more interested. In a strong current the long leader may allow the bait to move too much or even spin and that may be enough to turn the blackfish off. As usual, we have to compromise a variety of situations and circumstances in order to improve our chances of catching fish.

NOW WITH FLOUNDER, I never worry about the length of the leader. In general flounders aren't line shy and short leaders are fine. The shorter leaders can give you better hook setting control and allow the angler to present the baits better. Having the baits close to the sinker can offer another advantage, since many flounder fishermen like to bounce the sinker to stir up the sediment and attract the flounders. If the baited hooks are close to the sinker then there is a better chance of a bite.

PORGIES ARE ANOTHER MATTER. Generally, I like short leaders for porgies. This allows fishermen to put the baits right next to the chum pot without creating too much danger of tangling the chum pot. We tie one leadered hook about three inches above the sinker (sometimes right to the sinker) and another about four to six inches above the first hook. The bottom hook usually takes more porgies, but if you succeed in stacking them up around the chum pot, the higher hook can get very busy too. We use dropper loops to attach the leadered hooks and place a swivel on the high end of the terminal rig to prevent excessive line twist. We also generally use a slightly heavier and stronger hook for the high hook, because we figure that a weakfish might take a liking to our baits and we want to hold that fish.

LONGER LEADERS FOR COD, WEAKS, AND FLUKE are generally preferred because these fish can definitely be line and rig shy. There are times, especially during the winter, when the cod get so spooky they won't even hit a bait that moves and it's then that the boys fish a "dead" stick. Much the same is true of weaks and fluke. In general, you drift for these species and you want the sinker and its disturbance to pass before you present the bait. The difference is that a baited fluke hook will be tied on about three to six inches above the sinker, whereas the weakfish-baited hook may be as high as three feet above the sinker.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU CATCH WITH YOUR SIGMA REEL, MIKE!

TIDBITS! Thanks to Louis C. Tinto who sent us an article about the addition to the Dingell/Johnson tax bill. In addition to adding a tax for items that weren't taxed before, Congressman John Breaux has included a section that would require more funds to be funneled to saltwater angling (right now and historically, most of the money has been used to assist freshwater fishing). The Bill number is H.R. 2250 and if you'd like to express your feelings on this you can write to Congressman Breaux at H2-544 House Annex II, Washington, DC 20515. We have given this topic some space this year (perhaps you have seen editorial and article by Al Ristori, Issue #29), and we agree that the issue needs further exploration. We've seen some good and bad in this bill and we know that many of our readers and advertisers are divided on the bill. Perhaps there is a need for a more extensive airing and commenting on this.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION TO SAVE WETLANDS. The National Wildlife Federation has recently secured a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to setup wetlands education centers in New Orleans and North Carolina. The centers will be staffed by experts who will try to assist landowners, builders, developers, and politicians to understand why our country's wetlands are so important. As we have mentioned many times in this column, wetlands—particularly salt marshes—are priceless natural resources and without viable wetlands the productivity of our coastal oceans cannot be main-

tained. We congratulate the National Wildlife Federation for their efforts to protect vital wetlands.

HOW TO CATCH CRABS BY THE BUSHEL. This book probably won't help you anymore this year, but keep it in mind for next year. The book (title as above) was written by Jim Capossela. It's a small paperback book, but it's loaded with information on how, when, and where to catch more crabs. There is also a section on cooking crabs and several of the recipes offered are Maryland Crab Cakes and Crabs Cappy. For more information call Jim Capossela at (914) 762-7193. The book retails for about $3.

COMMERCIAL FISHING BONANZA CONTINUES. In the year 1981 up to April, New York commercial fishermen landed 8,112,013 lbs. of finfish for a total value of $4,006,380. This is up over the previous year when the totals were 7,996,571 lbs. worth $2,926,974. Is it any wonder then that in many areas and for many different species the recreational fishing in 1981 has been so bad. Remember, it has been proven that recreational hook and line fishing can and will never decimate a stock of fish to the point where stock size falls to levels that endanger either the species or its spawning. This is not true of commercial fishing today because technology has advanced to the point where they can continue to take good catches even when the stocks have been drastically decimated. One more point. If one reads the East Hampton Star each week one reads the same lines over and over again. The commercial fishermen saying that their catches are down and they are having a hard time making a living. "The lady doth protest too much, me thinks," said Shakespeare, but the numbers tell a much different story. Is the moaning and groaning for the benefit of the I.R.S.?

THANKS TO JOE HIGGINS for your thoughts on the meaning of a keeper and for writing to Governor Carey. Joe thinks that a lot of fishermen need to redefine the meaning of a keeper and that the rulers they use to measure fluke should be given a fair measure against another ruler? Good thoughts, Joe. We agree that recreation is just that—fun, and it is always wise to return the little ones for tomorrow.

THANKS TO JOHN HANSEN for his letter on baitfishing in New York City waters. We're glad that we were able to shed a little fresh light on the subject (original discussion in 5-28-81 issue).

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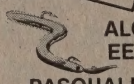

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FALL FOR A BLUE

by Gerald Hahn

Every autumn, an enormous migration of bluefish takes place in Long Island and surfcasters can be seen all along both the north and south shores, hoping to intercept the schools before they eventually head south. During many tidal changes, the crisp fall sky is suddenly blackened with thousands of shrieking birds—seemingly out of nowhere—diving for baitfish torn to shreds by rampaging blues. Within a minute, several acres of water are churning in an otherwise calm sea. Within another minute, it is all over as the sky turns blue again, and the sea smooths out its froth to a dead flatness.

Sometimes the flurry lasts longer, and for the lucky anglers in the right spot, it may occur within casting distance. To be sure, fishermen who belong to surfcasting clubs with beach vehicles and CBs, catch the most fish in the most exciting way: with artificials. Spreading out along several miles of beach like an invading army, one of them may spot a school and call the others who are certain to be there within minutes. But for the solitary shore-bound fisherman with limited time, most of the fishing will be slower, with bait on the bottom. But this is not so bad, considering the size of the catch in the fall: 8 to 15 lb. monsters!

For those who prefer places like the above on L.I. Sound, a 9' or 10' surf rod with an intermediate surf spinning reel filled with 20 lb. test is adequate. Other lures to be considered are metal and bucktails from 1 to 3 oz., especially when the fish are smaller. Tie a 12'' flexible wire leader to your line with an improved clinch knot at the barrel swivel end, or use a heavy shocker of 50 lb. test, and tie it with a blood knot. Wire leaders come with snaps, but you can add a Duo-Lock snap to the shocker for quick lure changes.

Before casting, wait a minute and study the situation. For example, if a school of bluefish surfaces and is moving to your right, make your cast beyond and ahead of the fish. By the time you reel in, the lure will intercept the school. To work the lure near the surface, engage the reel just before the artificial hits the water and reel in

In the fall, small blues, like this one, can be taken in low light. The day or tide, alligator blues may come within casting distance.

fast. To work it deeper, let the lure sink momentarily and work it a little slower. Sometimes you may see birds working the area, but no bluefish on top and no baitfish leaping out of the water. Do not cast directly into the zone of feeding birds. Watch them for a moment instead, and see if they are moving in a specific direction as they dive. Then walk about 100' ahead of them and make your cast. Diving birds are frequently feeding on scraps of bait floating on the surface in the **wake** of bluefish working ahead of them.

But what happens when you arrive on a beach and nothing is visible but the sea: no blues, no bait, no birds? You can try blind casting for awhile, but if this is fruitless, then it is time to bait up and fish the bottom. In the fall, the best baits are chunks of mossbunker or mackerel, as well as live or dead eels, and live-lined or dead fish fry—blackfish, bergalls, flounder, snappers and the like. Strip bait from a sea robin or almost any fish will also take blues.

Bottom rigs can be prepared a number of ways. Tie a 12'' leader of 50 lb. test to a black barrel swivel with a clinch knot, and connect the other side of the swivel to the main line with an improved clinch knot. For extra security add a three-way swivel below (with another clinch knot) and a 6/0 O'Shaughnessy or Siwash hook on a 12'' snell of 50 lb. test through the second eye of the swivel. On the remaining eye, connect a piece of monofilament with an improved clinch knot and an end loop 6'' to 8'' below for a 2 to 4 oz. bank sinker. Cut up one of the oily baitfish into thick steaks and impale one through the skin and near the spine. Strip baits impaled near the wide end can be used on this rig as well.

Another possibility is a fish finder rig. First put an egg sinker (the kind with a hole through its center) on the line; then connect a barrel swivel and add the snelled hook. A fish finder rig works best with small fish baits, dead or alive, as well as eels. A longer snell of perhaps 18'' with the same hooks as before, or a 4/0 Beak or Claw, gives the baitfish or eel some room to swim around. Hook the fish fry in the shoulder between the dorsal fin and the head; impale the eel through the jaw or eyes. Some people prefer a tandem rig for eels, similar to the type used for flounder. Dead fish fry should be impaled through the eyes or through the mouth and out the gill cover and again near the tail. All of these baits can be worked closer to the surface by eliminating the sinker or substituting a small rubber core sinker about a foot above the bait. I have also seen chunk baits attract blues near the surface by eliminating the sinker, especially on the outgoing tide. The bail is left open after casting, and the bait drifts to deeper water.

On the south shore, the same rigs, baits, and lures can be used, but heavier tackle is required. A 10' to 13' surf rod with plenty of backbone and a heavy-duty surf spinning reel filled with 20 lb. to 30 lb. test will clear the breaking waves and will also be free of seaweed when set in a long sand spike. Pyramid sinkers from 5 to 8 oz. are better than bank sinkers for digging into the sandy bottom and holding the baits there against the force of the surf. The best spots along the south shore beaches are near inlets. Any visible sand bar and dropoff should also be explored. For jetty jockeys working the ocean inlets, gear similar to fishing the Sound is adequate because deep water is nearby. Frequently, smaller blues weighing 2 to 4 lbs. are caught near the entrances and still lighter tackle can be used for them: an 8' rod and 10 lb. test for one to two ounce lures.

When a large blue hits your lure or bait, it will take a lot of line on one or two runs. For this reason, the drag should be set under the line's breaking point. Some bait casters leave the bail open so that the fish feels almost no resistance at first. After setting the hook sharply, keep the pressure on until the fish tires, and then start bringing it in by pumping the rod while simultaneously reeling in the slack. Large blues in the Atlantic can be beached by riding them in on the incoming waves; but on the Sound, the fish can be slid onto the sand or gaffed.

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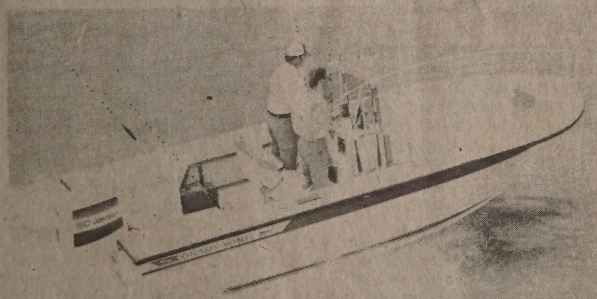

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OLD TIMER'S CORNER

LETTERS

by Matt Ahern

Ask and you shall receive.

Well, I've been asking and I've been receiving. Everyday, seemingly without fail, the postman stops his Jeep outside my house, and, if I'm home, I'm right behind him, checking to see what assortment of goodies he's left. Why, it's almost like having Christmas every day.

Aside from the usual bills (world without end), I'm almost certain to find letters from readers of this column. Sometimes only two or three a day, sometimes many. One day I received 83! This is the record, so far. I was up till 3AM the following morning working on that batch. The temptation to put half of them off until the next day was great, for I had a previously planned fishing trip on tap; but there was no way I could do that with a clear conscience. Besides, many letters contain request for replies "as soon as possible, Matt, because without your information, I won't be able to go fishing this weekend." So what's a guy to do? I don't mind, really, for that's what I'm here for.

But not all letters contain requests for immediate replies. Most fishermen who write enjoy shooting the breeze; they often tell me of their own experiences in those golden days of yore. Some readers take me to task for "making up stories, because fishing could never have been all that good." Some fellows, though, can even top those stirring catches of fluke and cod I write about. They tell me, too, that I really missed out on better fishing by not devoting more time around Atlantic City in the days of great sea bass fishing.

Some real old-timers even recall me as a kid aboard those very same party boats I write about. By so doing, they unknowingly resurrect long dormant memories, memories that only they and I are familiar with, plus long forgotten incidences of the times—the real sticky kind: you know, the kind that bring a lump to your throat.

Some fellows send me old fishing books long out of print. And lately I find that many old-timers are becoming "modern and up-to-date," for they send cassette tapes instead of putting their thoughts on paper. They say it is easier for them, and of course, it is. The only trouble here is that I've got to rush around to find someone who has a cassette player. But like all us old die-hards, I manage to do that, too.

Many good-natured readers send me invitations to join them aboard party boats, charter boats, and private craft. These are always most difficult to refuse, because, as I write back and explain to these fellows, I've had to draw the line somewhere. If I didn't, I'd never get my work done. And many times as I plod along on this old typewriter, I look out the window, see the beautiful day I've missed by being cooped up inside, and kick myself for not taking advantage of these very kind invitations. But—each of us must bear his own cross.

And photos. Often each day's mail from old-time fishermen will contain photos of their past exploits. Many of these photos are so old, they threaten to crumble at a touch. Many times, these snapshots bring back throat-gulping nostalgia, for I realize along with those who send these photos that never will we see such glorious fishing days again.

And then are are manuscripts from readers who would like to try their hand at writing. I welcome these, for it shows that here are fishermen who would like to share their thoughts with others and possibly to eventually brighten some unknown individual's drab existence. Most of these writers ask for criticism of their work; they ask me to wield the editing pen and have no mercy on their brainchild. I'm always happy to do this and I don't spare the horses, but alas most never continue and I never hear from them again, for most don't realize that writing is a tough, difficult job. But my offer is always open to anyone with the "itch" to write.

Well, anyway, enough of that for now.

Following are but some of the readers who have been kind enough to get in touch. These are only a handful of the tremendous amount of letters I have on hand, all awaiting their turn. If you don't see your name on this list, rest assured you will in the next Letters column.

My thanks: Thomas Adamo, Hollis; Salvatore Agliano, Brooklyn; Robert Apicella, Maspeth; Harold Arata, Rocky Point; Vincent P. Badame, Middle Village; Glenn Babbush, Brooklyn; Albert Barbera, New Rochelle; Jim Bassak, Honesdale, Pa; Jerry Ben-Natan, Bronx; Joe Binette, Brooklyn; Joseph W. Blinn, Ridge; Michael G. Borecky, Brooklyn; James M. Brady, Rockaway Point; Joe Calogero, Bayside; Anthony Cardinale, Bronx; Steve Casola, Massapequa; Eric Cisar, Brooklyn; Dorothy D. Civen, Center Moriches; Bob Clark, Queens Village; Bill Diebold, W. Babylon; J. Dichech, Bronx; LeRoy Drake, Southampton; Bob Duda, N. Babylon; Joseph C. Ehrlich, MD, East Quogue; Willis H. Evans, Jamaica; Joe Eybs, Woodhaven; Frank Ferraro, Brooklyn; S. Francesconi, Mattituck; Michael Fuchs, Whitestone; John Gallacher, Keokuk, Iowa; Wm. H. Garner, New Hyde Park; A. Granelli, Bklyn.; G.W. Goth, Garden City Park; Michael Grant, NYC; Mrs. E.S. Grover, Staten Island; Vic Guarino, Valley Cottage, NY; Jim Hammer, Maspeth; Henry M. Hansen, Holtsville; Barbara Herrera, Bklyn; Joseph L. Higgins, Bklyn; Frank Horan, Massapequa; Irvin James, Bklyn; Robert Johanson, Shirley; Alfred Kaplan, Jackson Hgts.; Joe Kist, Great Neck; Ira Kitograd, Sunrise, Florida; John V. Konior, Hicksville; Bill Korbel (WOR Radio Weatherman), NYC; Steve Kramer, Woodhaven; Steven Lane, Centereach; Lance E. Larsen, Southold; Robert Luthmann, Staten Island; A. Lynch, Valley Stream;

And...Wm. Magrino, Syosset; Terry Malrese, Bklyn; Richard Mammano, Mahopac, NY; Lou Mauriello, Seaford; Shelly Meyerson, Flushing; Tom Mikoleski, Elmhurst; Mario Monaco, Bellport; Anthony Medoro, Flushing; Tom Mistretta, Floral Park; Arthur Murphy, NYC; John Nitting, Jamaica; Joe Oprosko, Old Bethpage; Sidney Ornstein, Peekskill; Chuck and Bill Paradiso, Bklyn; Leo Pariser, Bronxville; Mike Quigley, Massapequa; Lenard Reckling, Grand Island, Nebraska; Andy Regina, Bronx; Sean Rode, Woodhaven; Herman Rosenberg, Clearwater, FLA; Marie de Saules, Seaside, NJ; Scott Scappeli, Central Islip; Marvin Scheck, Commack; Fredrick Scherer, Broad Channel; F.J. Schott, Woodside; Mike Shalkowski, Narragansett, RI; David H. Sibbold, Valley Stream; James P. Smith, Hollis; Dean Snyder, Bklyn; F. Stumph, East Quogue; Matt Swit, Amityville; John A. Thomas, Yonkers.

That's it for now. If you have a bottom fishing problem, or wish to discuss old-time fishing, get in touch with me at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. I'll be glad to hear from you. And as I always say—we'll kick it around.

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CAPTAIN'S TABLE

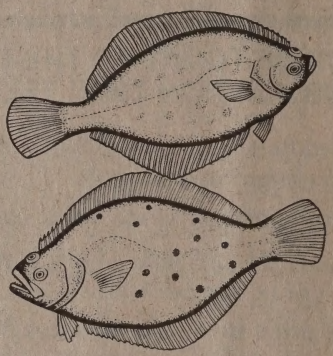
HEARTY FISH FILLETS

by Eileen Regina

Andy is never satisfied. If I vary our menu so that I do not repeat any one dish too often, he invariably expresses a desire for one particular dish, saying that he has not tasted that dish in a long time, asking why I don't prepare it more often, as it is one of his favorites. Actually they're **all** his favorites, but he just has to make some comment or other or he wouldn't be Andy. Then, if I make his favorite dish soon again, say within a week or so, he yells that I keep making the same old thing all the time and why don't I introduce some variety into his meals. I'm damned if I do and damned if I don't, and the only variety I can dream of that hasn't been tried, is if I try to boil the kitchen sink—but I keep trying anyway!

Actually he's pretty easy to please, as long as it's food and plenty of it, and as long as he gets his cup of coffee immediately after dinner. I tried serving coffee later, after the dinner dishes were done and I could relax a bit and enjoy a cup myself, figuring to join him for a leisurely kaffee-klatsch in the living room as we watched television, but he complains that coffee at a late hour keeps him awake. Naturally, he invariably falls into a sound sleep on the couch fifteen minutes after he has his second cup, and I end up having my coffee alone. So now I serve it at the kitchen table directly after dinner, where I at least have the dubious pleasure of his company for awhile.

With all his squawking about eating, the one thing he never complains of eating too often is fish fillets, provided the fish is fresh, and not frozen. I can't blame him too much here, because there is a marked difference in taste between fresh and frozen fish. I enjoy the fresh fish better myself, especially the fish Andy catches and cleans himself. The only problem here is that Andy never brings home that much fish, something to do with his personal code of ethics regarding conservation. He sets his own size and limit quotas, and



would rather not bring any fish home if they do not meet his high demands. My piscatorial Don Quixote invariably brings home less fish than anyone else, but those he does keep are really nice sized, and it doesn't take very many to feed the both of us.

We prefer fillets, though there are merits to whole fish also, and Andy likes to fillet the fish himself, which he does with surgeon-like skill. If the fillets are thick, such as those taken from cod or blackfish, he'll fillet those again, coming up with a stack all the same thickness, about a quarter inch, which makes my cooking chores simple because the fish will all cook in the same length of time. Flounders make our favorite fillets, but fluke, cod and blackfish run close seconds. He refuses to fillet striped bass or bluefish, believing that the whole fish in this instance tastes better. We usually have these fish baked whole, which is also delicious.

When it comes to preparing fillets, my pet recipe calls for using corn flake crumbs instead of bread crumbs, which makes the fish moist, tender and tasty, while appealing to male appetites, so I call them "Hearty Fish Fillets." The recipe is quite simple; so why not try it yourself, and see how your man likes it?

HEARTY FISH FILLETS
Ingredients: (Serves 2)
3 eggs
1 cup Kellogg's Corn Flake crumbs
1 lb. fresh fish fillets
1/2 cup vegetable oil
salt & pepper to taste
curly parsley
lemon wedges

Beat the eggs in a bowl, blending in salt and pepper to taste. Dip each fillet into crumbs, then into eggs, then back into crumbs again, ensuring complete coverage of fillet. Heat oil in skillet and fry each fillet until golden brown, a matter of only a few minutes on each side. Prolonged cooking will result in dried-out fish, so do not overcook to maintain delicate texture and flavor.

Serve fillets piping hot, on a platter ringed with lemon wedges and garnished with sprigs of parsley. Ideal vegetables to serve would be French-fries, corn-on-the-cob, and broccoli spears. In season, fresh asparagus spears are great also, but the frozen variety tend to be too mushy for our taste. Any cool, crisp salad goes well here, as well as a good, dry white wine, such as a Pinot Blanc, that is slightly chilled but not cold. With this meal, we usually have Russian pumpernickel bread and butter, which is also a perfect complement.

Working housewives can save some time by preparing fillets the night before. Simply bread them and leave them in the fridge overnight, and they'll be ready to pop into the frying pan when you come home from work the next day. As we said, it is a simple but tasty dish, and one that has yet to elicit anything but sighs of approval from my man. Try it soon, and let me know how your guy likes it!

OCTOBER REPORTS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

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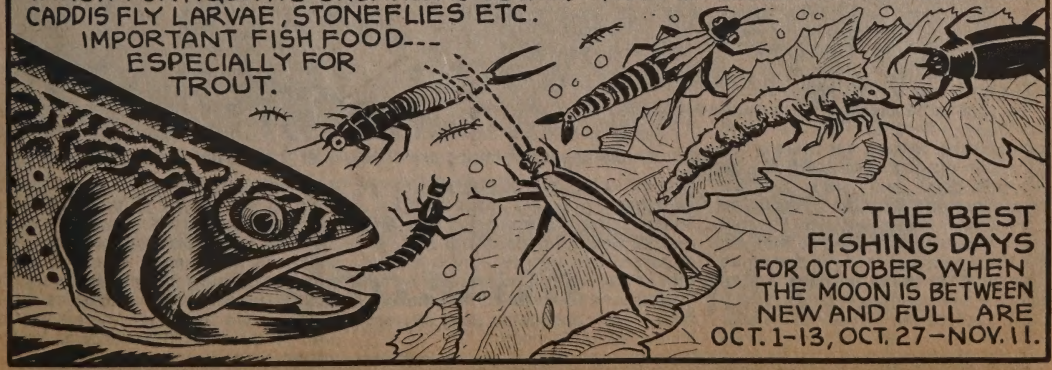


THE BEST FISHING DAYS FOR OCTOBER WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN NEW AND FULL ARE OCT. 1-13, OCT. 27-NOV. 11.

Great South Bay BULLDOGS

by Herb Buch

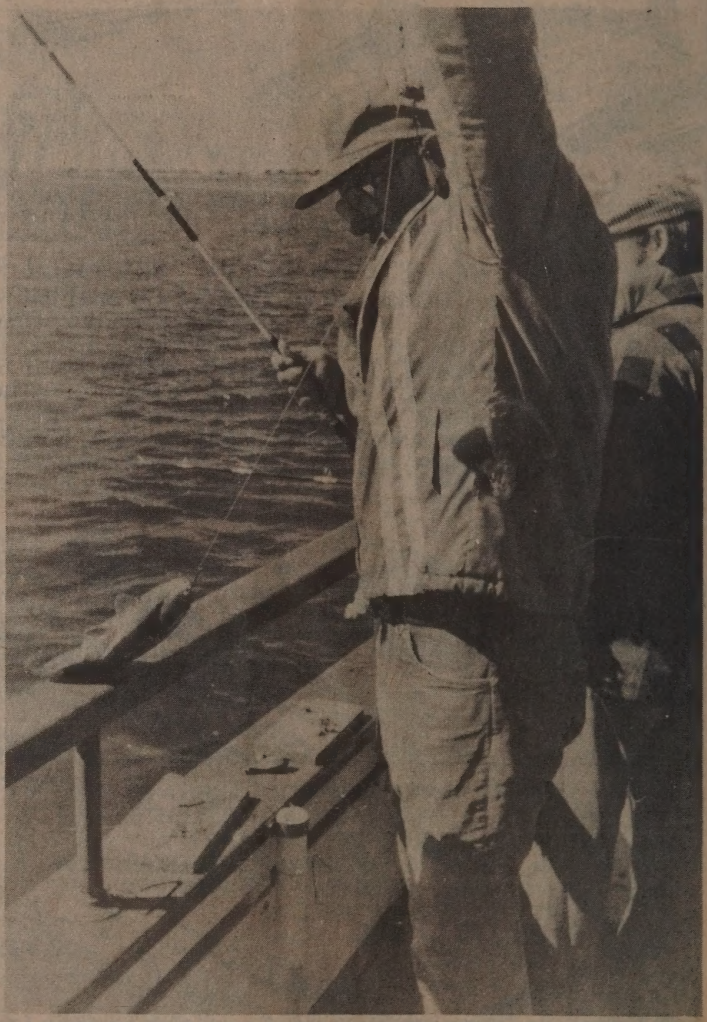
What do you call a fish that grabs your bait and won't let go? Not only that, but you may not be able to move him from the bottom no matter how strong your line is. I call him a bulldog, and he is one of the most challenging fish that we have in local waters. In our area he is commonly called a blackfish, but in New England he is the tautog.

During the last few years, fishing for many our local bay species has not been up to past standards. Fortunately, the blackfish have been abundant during this same period. They invade the bays in the early spring and are usually established at about the same time that flounder fishing becomes good. As a result, there is little pressure upon them in the spring. Flounder are a spring tradition on Long Island and most people do not even think of other fish. Others believe that blackfishing is much more difficult than flounder fishing. It is a bit more difficult, but in turn, the fish are not only larger, but fight much harder than flounder. Blackfish can also be filleted and are an excellent food fish. If you enjoy a good fight and a good meal, you should try a trip for blackfish.

Last fall was a perfect time to experiment, and this fall should be just as good. Flounder fishing was poor at that time. Many days were too windy to go offshore for blues. At the same time, the sheltered waters of Great South Bay were loaded with blackfish. Several boats were sailing from the Captree basin and concentrating on them. There was even a half day boat, making two trips a day for those people with limited time. Not only does this port have a selection of clean, well serviced boats to choose from, but it is within a short run of many Great South Bay blackfish hotspots.

Blackfish are bottom fish that like to eat shellfish and crabs. Because of their food preference, they are found around rocks, wrecks, and reefs which abound in their favorite food. Bridge supports, docks, and mussel beds are also excellent locations. Locating good spots is not too difficult. The real problems are in anchoring so that you can fish a good spot without damaging your boat, or losing an anchor. The captains who specialize in this fishing out at Captree can fix their boats over the right spots in spite of strong winds and fast tidal currents.

If you are interested in trying this type of fishing, but do not have much equipment, you don't have to worry. Some of the boats supply rods and reels as well as the usual rigs and bait as part of their service. Any light boat rod, or bay rod will do the job. A reel loaded with 15 or 20 lb. test mono is more than adequate. Noodle rods should be left at home.



A double-header of tautog are swung over the rail on a cool October day.

The reason for the choice of tackle is not the size of the fish. They are excellent battlers, but you could land them on the lightest of tackle except for their method of fighting. Once they feel the hook, they will dive for shelter in the wrecks, rocks, or any debris around. If they achieve their goal, they will either wedge themselves into a tight spot, or cut your line. When a blackfish wedges itself into a tight spot you have to have a lot of patience. Loosen up your line and

wait. If you are lucky, he will eventually leave the shelter. If he does not, you can call the mate to break you out and rig you with a new sinker and hooks.

Experienced anglers fish a tight line and a tight drag. When they feel a blackfish bite, they set back with a sharp yank and reel as hard as possible. The fish seem to be caught by surprise when you do this, and you will have them five or six feet away from the bottom before they know what has happened. Just about then, they wake up, and you hang on. If your drag is not tight, a big one will go back to the bottom and cut you off. If it is set correctly, you are in for a tough battle until you can get the fish to the top.

The fish that are caught on the Captree boats average from one to three pounds in weight. There are occasional smaller ones that manage to get the hook into their mouths, and the pool winners usually run to four or five pounds. If you get a big one, yell for the net. Blackfish do not usually get off the hook, but the line may have been weakened by rubbing against a mussel and you don't want to lose a pool fish at the boat.

Now that you know how to pry them loose from the bottom, it is time to learn how to hook them. The mates will usually rig you up with a sinker and two hooks that are tied together so that both will be on the bottom. They usually supply both clam and crab baits. If you are new to the sport, request a single hook rig, and stick to the crab bait. The small crabs called fiddlers are easily hooked, after you break off their big claw, by sliding the point of the hook into the joint where a leg meets the body. Let the sinker down to the bottom on a tight line, and put the reel into gear the instant it hits. Letting the line slide through your fingers is a good way because you can tell when you hit bottom and feel a bite at that moment. Many people who do not have this have their bait stolen before they can tighten their lines. This doesn't always happen; but when you're fishing an active piece of bottom, it is a common occurrence.

Both bergalls and blackfish will peck at a bait. Do not move the line at all when this happens. Wait patiently, and if it was a blackfish, he will finally take the crab back into his mouth and crush it. At this point you will feel a sharp, but short pull. This is when you "cross his eyes" as the fresh-water bass man says. If it was a black and you get him moving fast enough he will be yours. It doesn't matter how hard he pulls because as long as he is away from the bottom you can wait him out. There are eight or ten pound fish in the bay, but they are rarely taken. If you hook one, no one will have to tell you to take your time—the fish will set the pace.

Bergalls are common on some grounds. They steal a lot of bait, but there is no way to avoid them. By using a single hook you make it possible for yourself to concentrate better on what is going on down there.

My friend Mel and I had some great days last fall using bait casting outfits designed for freshwater. They handled the fish with ease and were a lot more fun to use than the boat rods. Our 12 lb. test line did not result in many lost rigs because we were fishing almost straight down. The light line, however, did allow us to use lighter sinkers, which I believe makes it easier to feel bites. Modern bait casting rods are powerful tools and are really ideal for all kinds of bay fishing. The reels have star drags, and allow much better control of a fish than does a spin reel which tends to hit against the boat's rail.

The regulars on these boats, who want to catch the largest fish, often bypass the bait provided by the boat. They stop at their favorite bait shop and buy some green crabs before the boat leaves. This bait seems to be superior to fiddlers in attracting large fish. You will have to set your own goals.

Last season our blackfishing was a second choice, because of high winds that would have made bluefishing very uncomfortable. This year we plan on enjoying it as a first choice. The fish were strong, willing and delicious to eat, and they fought like bulldogs.

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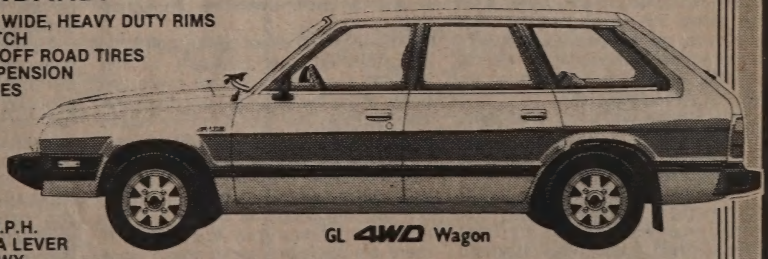

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A LURE FOR ALL SEASONS

by Einar F. Grell

"Hey Doc. I have a good question for you. Of all the lures which you have in your tackle box, which one do you consider the best to catch the greatest variety of fish during all seasons?" My response to this question after taking inventory of the fish available in this area as well as the variety of fishing techniques that could be employed would be the bucktail jig.

A bucktail is nothing more than a weighted leadhead to which is attached some hairs from animals. Most preferred are hairs from the rear end of a male deer although hair from other animals may be used. I prefer the real thing. However, in this modern world of chemistry, bucktails consist of any leadheaded jig with a tail that wriggles. These tails can be made of synthetic rubber, vinyl, nylon or dacron like material. The weight range for these lures is 1/8 to 3 oz. Weights most commonly used are those under 1 oz. Hook sizes are 1/0 to 4/0. The shape of these bucktails vary from those shaped like bullets to those which are flattened horizontally allowing for a planing action. Those flattened vertically allow the lure to cut through a fast current. Flat heads are used for shallow water angling while vertical heads are employed for deeper water. Some heads look like Martian critters being bug-eyed, cross-eyed and off-center-eyed. Regardless of shapes, they are all made of lead and have tails.

Bucktails come in all colors with white being the most popular. For anglers who do not like solid colors, combinations of red and white, yellow and white and blue and white are used. I prefer white.

Simplest Method for Using Bucktails.

More important than color of the bucktail is the method employed for presenting the lure to the fish.

The easiest way to use bucktails is by that method known as jigging. For example, you are out in the Great South Bay drifting for fluke, weakfish, bluefish or stripers and have just dropped your lure to the bottom. While drifting you drag your lure along the bottom. Every few seconds you jerk your rod a little. This causes the bucktail to jump erratically from the bottom. As it is lifted and again strikes the bottom puffs of sand or mud are kicked up. Weakfish and fluke go insane with these jump encounters with bug-eyed bucktails. This method is most effective in tidal water sluiceways (drains) which typify our shallow water wetlands. In tropical waters over coral reefs it is amazing the great variety of fish which can be caught in this fashion. A nice feature of jigging while drifting is the great amount of territory which can be covered. In any given spot where you catch several fish the drift can be terminated and concentrated in shorter drifts over the productive spot.

Weakfish on both shores of the Island love bucktails fished slow and deep.

Although most of my jigging is accomplished with bucktails in the 5/16 to 1 oz. weight class there are times when the water is very deep and swift such as that found in Fire Island Inlet or off Montauk at Shagwong Point. Here I employ the heavier 2 to 3 oz. bucktails. The rule of thumb for jigging via drifting or trolling is that the bucktail must be jigged on the bottom or as near to it as possible. If there are rocks in a given area I want the lure to occasionally strike these rocks so as to entice a large striper or weakfish to strike. When fishing over grassy beds, I want the lure to be traveling just over the tips of the eel grass. It should be apparent that every so often you will hang up your lure on the bottom while jigging in this manner. Don't be alarmed. This is the price of making a good catch. For example, when jigging a bucktail at Montauk for stripers your lure should be just over the kelp beds for your best catches. Periodically, you will foul your lure with a "garrison Belt" piece of kelp, but so what! this is where the fish are.

When jigging over a muddy bottom your bucktail should be planing an inch over the bottom with the occasional jerk of the lure striking the bottom resulting in erratic puffs and bumps. I have enticed many a fluke to strike using this method.

There are many methods for bottom bouncing which you can employ. After casting out the lure and allowing it to settle to the bottom you can twitch the rod sharply resulting in a variety of hops: two short hops and a long hop, a long hop with three short hops—you name it. Develop your own hopping and jigging technique. You can cause the bucktail to jump vertically by a long, sharp twitch of the rod tip. It is imperative when you are twitching the rod tip sharply that you pay attention to the lure when it is settling back after the twitch. It is at this time that many strikes occur. Watch the line closely. When you see your slack line jerk, jerk back. You have a fish on.

A method employed by many sharpies is one characterized by a very, very slow retrieve in which the angler with light twitches of the rod tip causes the bucktail to more or less stumble forward. Much patience is

needed. It is important that the lure be kept on the bottom—all the way to the boat.

Many times you want a very rapid retrieve in the event that bluefish, weakfish, striped bass and fluke appear in a more energetic feeding pattern. You cast the bucktail and then retrieve the lure with staccato-like twitches of the rod cranking in your line as fast as you can. In the ocean you will find that fast swimming mackerel, bonito, and small tuna will eagerly grab the white or yellow bucktail. In tropical waters barracuda, jacks and yellowtails go wild with a fast retrieve.

You might also wish to fish your bucktail in "dead fashion" across a tidal current. For example, while drifting in Fire Island or Jones Inlet, you cast your lure at right angles to the drift direction of your boat. Without moving or twitching the lure you allow the lure in dead fashion to be swept around to a position directly behind your boat. Oftentimes while the lure is being swept around behind you a fish will strike. When the lure swings around behind your boat without a strike you then proceed to retrieve the bucktail with slight twitches of the rod tip until the lure is ready to be lifted from the water. Weakfish in particular succumb to this method especially when you cast your lure at right angles up onto shallow water banks that border the many drains of the Great South Bay area. This is an excellent method for fishing the many saltwater creeks and streams which enter our South Shore bays.

Deep Jigging.

Deep jigging of bucktails in water depths of 25' to more than 100' is all work and takes muscle especially when you are using 20 to 40 lb. wire. I was first introduced to jigging 3 oz. bucktails at Montauk Pt. more than twenty years ago. The wire was 20 lb. test Monel spooled onto a Penn 49M reel mounted on a 30 lb. class trolling rod. Bouncing a bucktail along the bottom off Shagwong by way of the broomstick sweeping motion was all work and very little play. Many lures were lost to kelp and rock hangups, but the method was highly successful with striped bass. This was before the era of umbrella rigs. More than once I was tempted to increase the wire test to that of 40 lb., but the sensitivity of feel which I had developed with 20 lb. wire was far too productive with catching fish to change to line of heavier gauge. When a small piece of kelp or seaweed hung up my 2 or 3 oz. white bucktail I immediately knew about it. Paying attention to drag settings, trolling speeds, knowing where your lure is at all times are skills which must be acquired if you go the 20 lb. test wire route. Also, it is important that your wire be marked at 50' intervals so that you know the depth at which you are fishing. I employ a red, white and blue system with red at 100', white at 150', blue at 200', double red at 250', double white at 300'. Seldom do I drag more than 300' of wire. Bucktails are fastened to wire by way of 15-20' leaders made of 30 or 40 lb. monofilament. Small barrel swivels connect wire to leaders with mono leaders tied directly to bucktails by double clinch or improved clinch knots.

The jigging motion employed is similar to that of sweeping your walk with a broom the motion of which causes the bucktail to make the erratic jumps and hops that entice stripers and other bottom dwellers such as cod and pollack.

Innovative methods for using bucktails are many. Only your ingenuity is the limiting factor. Bucktails may be tipped with pork rinds, small fish or thin strips of natural bait such as mackerel, fluke bellies, pieces of squid—you name it. I know one angler who rigs his umbrella rigs with bucktails and does a murderous job with weakfish, blues, and an occasional striper.

Another one of my friends, a frustrated jogger, fishes from the banks of the State Boat Channel, Democrat Point and the Sore Thumb. More than once, after casting out his lure I have seen him running up the beach with his rod and reel. He is trolling without a boat. I have seen him catch schoolie bass and weakfish via this strange way. He stays trim and satisfies both his fishing and jogging desires. He also tries running his lures across the Captree Bridge trying to catch weakfish in the spring, but he is constantly stopped by L.I. Park Commission Park Police who tell him that it is illegal to fish from these bridges. He employs this method from bridges down in the Florida Keys and says "Why not here?"

Bucktails other than the old-fashioned kind made of real buck hairs headed by leadheads today include many plastic facsimiles such as Mr. Twisters, Bug A Boo Tails, Spinner Bugs, Purty Bugs, Salty Dog Shrimp, Hustle Bugs, Tri-Fins and so on. These non-haired lures are basically designed like leadheaded bucktails. They simulate the same type of action as original bucktails and do catch fish.

If you ask marine biologists why bucktails catch fish he will either say that he does not know or give you a long lecture on what he thinks the weird lure looks like or represents to fish in the water.

I asked my non-educated half-Indian grandfather why the bucktail catches fish and he responded without hesitation "Fish just love to eat them up!" I think this is the perfect answer. Fish just love them.

Go buy yourself some bucktails or make some up yourself and go fishing. Bucktails are very effective lures that every fisherman should have in his tackle box. Don't leave the dock without them.

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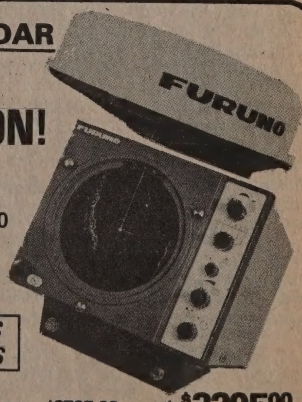

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BUCKTAIL POUCH

by Pete Barrett

Bucktails, plastic tailed lures, diamond jigs, metal squids and tube-tailed lures can all be stored easily in a canvas pouch. The pouches fold for quick storage in a pocket, tackle box or jetty bag, yet afford fast accessibility when you need the lure.

The diagram shows the basic dimensions for a bucktail pouch, but the measurements can be readily altered to fit other things like artificial eels, offshore feathers or skirts, spoons, leaders, first aid kits, navigation tools, chart paper and a list of other items only limited by your imagination.

Canvas will hold up the longest under hard fishing use, such as in a surf bag, but denim or any other heavy material can be utilized. Be sure of the color fastness. One pouch my wife made of red denim slowly dyed my white bucktails pink!

Since most of us don't sew, this project does require help from your wife, girl friend, or someone who can work a sewing machine with at least the basic skills.

Start with a piece of material about twelve inches wide and nine inches high. Fold the bottom third of the material half-way up the nine inch side so you now have a piece that measures 12'' wide by 6'' high.

Sew partitions in the double-folded side about an inch to an inch-and-a-half wide. The partitions should be wide enough to hold the size lures you will be carrying.

You can add ''piping'' to the outside edges so the fabric won't fray in use and you might find it a good idea to vary the width of the partitions to accept a wider variety of lure sizes. Slide bucktails into the partitions, roll up the pouch and slide it into your pocket or tackle box.

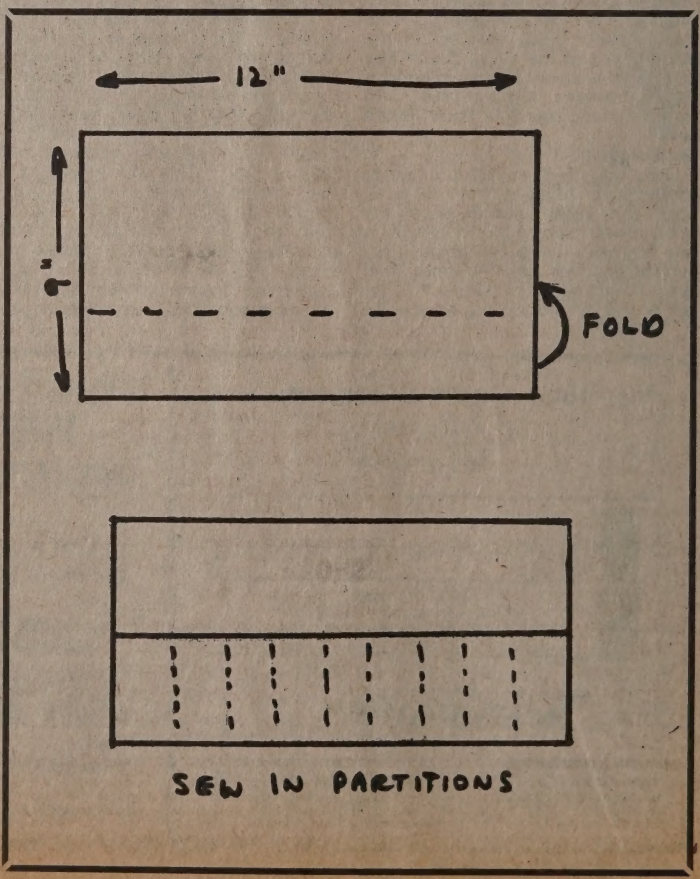
If the pouch ever gets soaking wet, remove the lures and dry the pouch or you may end up with a soggy, rusty bag of lures. The small amount of moisture that accumulates during normal use doesn't harm the lures and quickly evaporates and dries.

A fishing club I belonged to several years ago, made a project out of making the pouches with the aid of a high school sewing class. The results were good and the expense was minimal.

If you want to get really fancy you can have a pair of tie strings sewn on which will tightly secure the rolled pouch from opening unexpectedly.

One word of caution: watch your buddies with a careful eye. The only reason I have to make new pouches is to replace those that ''walk away'' when I'm not looking.

Canvas or denim pouches store bucktails, squids, feathers and leaders.



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MAKING WIRE LEADERS

by J. Chad

It isn't a complicated procedure, the making of wire leaders; neither does it demand a mechanical expertise or a host of expensive tools. All that is required is the leader material and associated hardware—a pair of lineman's pliers or similar tool. A small area in which to work, and a few minutes of your time. With the price of gas again climbing upward, along with the price of just about everything else, I, for one, am on the lookout for any possible way to economize on my fishing expenses without cutting into my fishing itself. Building my own wire leaders helps me do this and maybe it can do the same for you.

There are two types of leader material generally used for wire leaders. One is multi-stranded with or without a protective polyethyline coating. The other is a single strand wire. It is the single that I prefer for saltwater fishing and since most instances of wire leader use for me is in saltwater fishing, it will be single strand wire I'm dealing with.

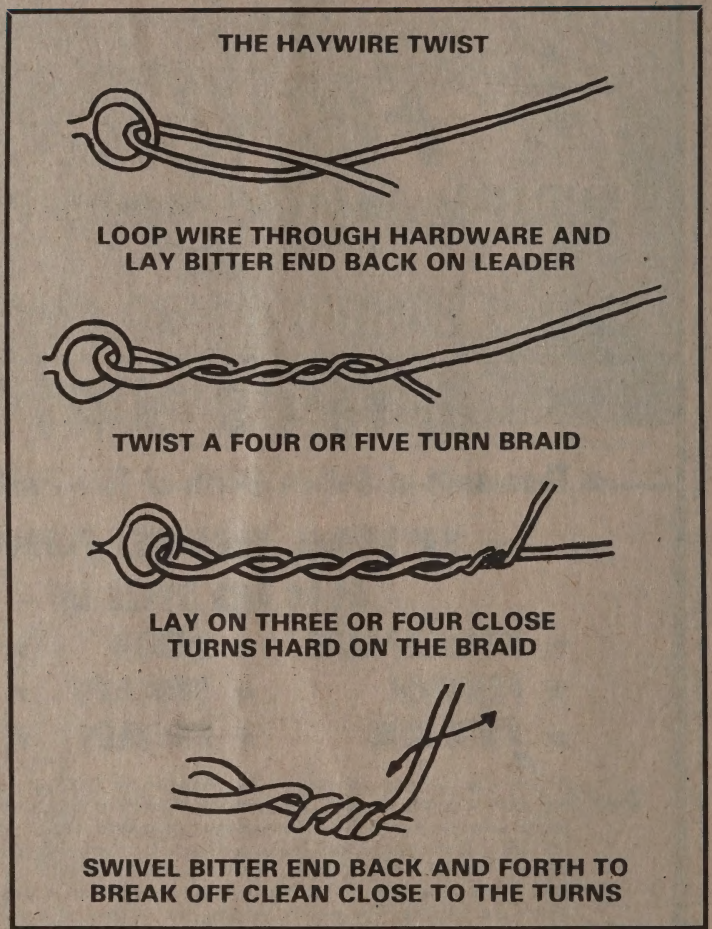
I use "Seastrand" single strand wire which I obtain in tests of 27 to 105 lbs. Of course, it comes in larger sizes, but that is the range I find most convenient for my use. To give you an idea of the prices I was paying, a 25' coil of 27 lb. test cost $.55. A coil of 105 lb. test cost $.85 with the prices of differing sizes in-between varying accordingly.

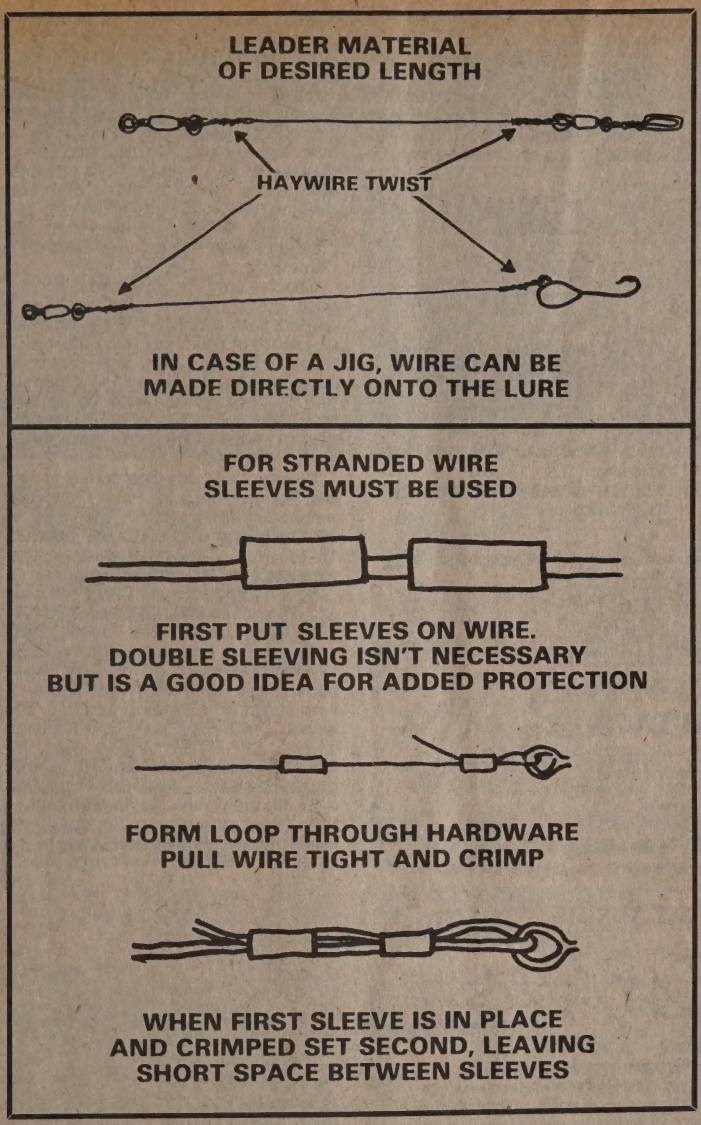
The connecting sleeves for the wire were $.55 per 25 count bag and the largest coastloack snap swivel and brass barrel swivel that I used were priced $2.90 a dozen for 4/0 coastlock and $2.05 a dozen for size 1, 150 lb. test barrels.

So, as you can see, the materials are really not expensive in comparison to the cost of ready-made leaders.

Making the leaders is easy. Simply cut the wire to the desired leader length, adding the required amount to its length to make up the ends. In the case of leaders whose bends are spliced with crimps two to four additional inches per end is more than enough for crimping purposes. In the case of splicing with a haywire twist, add an additional 10" to 12" to the wire's overall length before cutting it to your leader size. In both cases, I'd say these are maximum additions and once you get the knack of making leaders you will probably find that the length of additional wire needed to make the swivels fast can be reduced.

I mentioned two methods: crimping and the haywire twist for making the wire onto the hardware. Crimping on connector sleeves is a method that can be used for both single and multi-


THE HAYWIRE TWIST
LOOP WIRE THROUGH HARDWARE AND LAY BITTER END BACK ON LEADER
TWIST A FOUR OR FIVE TURN BRAID
LAY ON THREE OR FOUR CLOSE TURNS HARD ON THE BRAID
SWIVEL BITTER END BACK AND FORTH TO BREAK OFF CLEAN CLOSE TO THE TURNS
BRASS BARREL SWIVEL
COAST LOCK SNAP SWIVEL

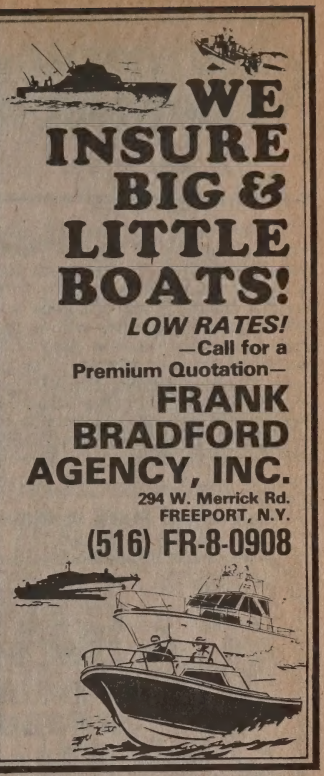

LEADER MATERIAL
OF DESIRED LENGTH
HAYWIRE TWIST
IN CASE OF A JIG, WIRE CAN BE
MADE DIRECTLY ONTO THE LURE
FOR STRANDED WIRE
SLEEVES MUST BE USED
FIRST PUT SLEEVES ON WIRE.
DOUBLE SLEEVING ISN'T NECESSARY
BUT IS A GOOD IDEA FOR ADDED PROTECTION
FORM LOOP THROUGH HARDWARE
PULL WIRE TIGHT AND CRIMP
WHEN FIRST SLEEVE IS IN PLACE
AND CRIMPED SET SECOND, LEAVING
SHORT SPACE BETWEEN SLEEVES

stranded leader wire. The haywire twist is only suitable for the single strand leader wire. I use the twist on all my single strand leaders because it is a very effective means of making the wire fast and I see no need to use sleeves. When I do, on occasion, construct leaders of multi-strand wire, the sleeves are a must and I double sleeve both ends for maximum strength.

Making the wire fast to a swivel with the twist, or in the case of jigs, directly to lures, is a quick and easy process. Simply loop the wire through the hardware's ring leaving yourself at least four inches of bitter end to work with. Then, holding the ring in one hand, lay the bitter end over the leader wire on a close loop. Holding the ring in one hand and the layed-over wires in the other, twist four or five turns close onto the hardware. In the case of heavy wire, a couple pairs of pliers might be more convenient than fingers for a tight weave.

Once the braid is set, take the bitter end and lay down four or five tight turns at the braid's end, then clear any remaining wire by bending it back and forth until it snaps free. This puts the wire close to where it lays and doesn't leave a sharp edge as does the trimming of the wire with cutting pliers.

The process is simple, the materials are inexpensive and I hope, that for those that are interested, this information will enable you, not only to save a few dollars, but will help catch more fish with leaders that are exactly as long or as short as you feel they should be.



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Montauk Report

by Stu Miller

Captain Buddy Dorman of the 6 man limit open boat **Waxed** reports that this week porgy fishing was good for his fares. Wednesday saw Allan Dresner of Brooklyn high hook with 303 fish, mainly porgies with a good shot of sea bass thrown in. Also mixed catches of flounder, blacks, ables and fluke are being picked. The 200 mark was bettered over the weekend. Sunday Oct. 4 is the last day of porgy fishing for the season with the boat switching to striped bass fishing now. See ad for details. Also 4-man charters.

Little Bear and **Flying Cloud** have been having very good porgy catches, mostly mediums to jumbos and will be hanging in there with porgies until the end of the season.

The **Viking Fleet** informs us that the Coxes Ledge cod remains good with fish averaging 6-12 lbs. The bluefishing trips to Cartwright continue to be astounding, with gorilla type action. The porgy fishing continues very strong at the Point, mixed fish but mainly mediums.

Alan Okada, of Woodside, displays the 17 lb. 14 oz. bluefish he took on a recent trip to Montauk.

Captain Richie Rade of the **Marlin Fleet** continues to pull porgies for his passengers to the tune of 80 to 100 a man, fish running 1½ to 3 lbs. at the Point. Lots of blues on both day and night trips, 15-20 a man. Fish are running 12-23 lbs. at Cartwright day and night on bait. Please note all bluefish tickets are sold for Saturday, October 3.

Charter boat **King Wayne** reports a good day's fishing for Coop City's anglers with roughly 100 big bluefish due south of the Point. On Saturday a trip for Buddy Miles and group of Jamaica, Queens bailed 148 blues up to 20 lbs. south of the Point on herring bait. Sunday's bluefishing was slow due to high winds and very lumpy seas.

Charter boat **Joy-Sea** called to say that Sunday's trip for Peter Genovese resulted in 4 blue shark taken up to 300 lbs. along with a 102 lb. mako on 15 lb. test. The bluefishing action remains excellent at Cartwright.

Star Island Yacht Club tells us about Wednesday's catch of a 904 lb. giant tuna aboard the Queen Bess with John Paliciano on the rod. On Wednesday, two giant tuna were hooked and landed on the Elaina IV with Captain James Hunt at the wheel. On the rod was Tom Mullany of Port Jeff. Their biggest giant hit 448 lbs. Twelve-year-old Greg Joust on his dad's boat Sea Hunter bagged a 400 lb. giant tuna. Seventeen bigeye tuna were brought in Sunday from Block Island. Some were caught on

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Edward and Kathalyn Erhard display Ed's 14 lb. 2 oz. fluke taken on an AM trip aboard the "Viking Starship."

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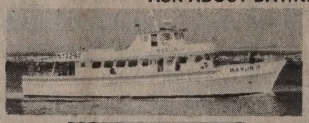

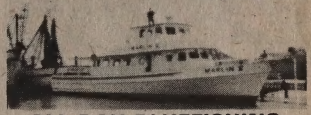

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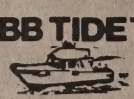

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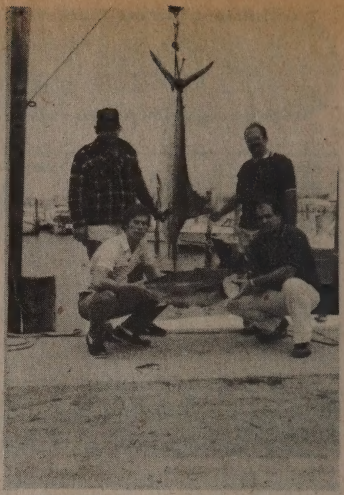
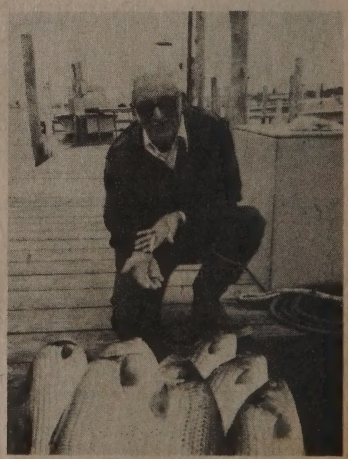


Chris Florenz and the Parker brothers with a 53 lb. white marlin and a 42 lb. bluefin tuna taken aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Nostalgia II."

squid and Kona heads. The boats that did this were Harvey Pollock's Hot Potato, Bill Bourneman's Devious XIPHIAS, Lou Feinman's Tenderfoot and Don Butler's Magician. The Hot Potato also had a 100 lb. swordfish at the Canyon. Lots of small blues at the point on umbrellas and some fluke on the south side on sand eels and squid.

Captain Zach of the charter boat **Mako Express** called to tell of 7 tagged and released blue shark that his charter had Saturday. They also diamond jigged large blues at Cartwright. This trip was for Bob Fitzgibbons, Dan Karcenski, John LaRusso, Rip Boehm and Juan Rajd.

Captain Joe McBride of the charter boat **My Mate** on Saturday fished Mike Seller of Greenwich, Ct. and



Don Champ shows the Ava jig and tube combo he used to nail 6 bass to 40 lbs. on the charter boat "Vivienne."

An overnight trip to the 40 fathom curve aboard the "Montauk" resulted in this catch of tuna, marlin and mako sharks for a party led by David Goethals. Photo courtesy of Montauk Marine Basin.

group which accounted for 50 blues from 15-20 lbs. taken at Cartwright on bait with some smaller blues also trolled at Shagwong.

Charter boat **Vivienne** is still doing casting and has taken during this past week several bass and weakfish and of course is taking loads of Cartwright bluefish for his parties.

Charter boat **Julie III** called to tell of Saturday's charter led by little Ernie which fished Great Eastern and scored with 520 lbs. of porgies up to 3½ lbs. on clam.

Ron Onorato and George Oliver rang the bell with a 400 tuna Tuesday, the last day of the Block Island tuna action

Captain Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** tells us that Dan Morelli of Teaneck, NJ on an all day trip off Block Island had a barrel of gorilla blues. Smaller blues are also at Shagwong. No sign of stripers yet, but they should be coming into the area in a week or two. The Nill brothers of Huntington had a great day Sunday with 35 blues including one 20 lb. gorilla taken by one of the Nill youngsters.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

HAMPTON BAYS

Out at **Corr's Fishing Station,** John Mangino told me that there were some good flounder catches made over the weekend in the vicinity of the Basket area, Heady Creek, and the Cost Gaurd Station. Fish ranged from ½ to lb. and were taken on bloodworms. Paul Nalbandian, of New Hyde park, and two friends returned with a catch of 53 flatties. Still a few fluke around the Inlet but most anglers are switching over to flounder.

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MORICHES BAY

Flounder fishing got off to good start this weekend according to the report filed by **Silly Lilly Fishing Station.** Catches per boat ranged anywhere from 12 to 40. Best fishing was in the buoy 44 area where a few blowfish and porgies were mixed with the flatties. Buoy 42 seemed to have an edge in the size department however. fluke are still in the Inlet area. Rich

Paul McNulty with Canadian friends Susan and Mike display a 101 lb. mako, and a 50 lb. bluefin tuna caught at Montauk aboard the "Barracuda."

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–FALL–

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matan and 3 friends had 12 keepers on Saturday.

From **Skidmores Fishing Station,** jim also relayed word that the fall run of fluonder is underway. Fishing appears to be improving on a daily basis as bay water temperatures fall. Bloodworms have worked best but red-dyed clams work too according to Jim. He suggested Buoy 44 on N.E of 42 when most of the better catches have been made. On Saturday, Stan Bigora totalled 52 flounder while on Sunday, Kathy and Frank Meladossi wound up with 47 flatties at Bouy 44.

A nice mixed bag to fill in between the departing fluke and newly arriving flounder said Andy of **Seatuck Cove Fishing Station** in Eastport. On Saturday, Stan Dowling and his son, both of Bohemia, wound up the day with 104 sea bass up to 2 lbs., 8 flounders, a sozen snappers, 6 porgies and a couple of blowfish. All

Charles Heilman I, II, and III with a catch of 212 flounder taken on worms and mussel chum near buoy 42 in Moriches Bay. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Fishing Station.

were taken in the hole N.E. of Buoy 42 during the last half of outgoing water. Squid strips accounted for most of the fish.

MASTIC BEACH

Speaking from **Stiriz's Fishing Station,** Gary told of some fisn flounder fishing between buoy's 9 and 21. Some boats had as many as 60 of the new arrivals. The better catches were made on worms and chumming has not been necessary. A few sea bass and blows are mixed in. Quite a few blackfish to 3 lbs. on Fiddlers and Green Crabs at the bridge and boatmen trolled weaks and blues on umbrella rigs along the beach this past week.

OAKDALE

Dave Canale, of **J&R Sport Center,** called the blackfishing on the Kismet Reef excellent for fishing ranging form 2 to 8 lbs. Fiddlers and Green Crabs have both been effective but fiddlers have had the edge while Green Crabs take less but larger fish. Sea bass and porgies are still around on bay wrecks. Use squid or clams. Best bet for flounder forms is the pocket at the Sore Thumb with worms. Live-liners continue to pich a few large weakfish on blackfish but the big news was the catch of five bass from 31 to 56.10 lbs. made last Tuesday by Chip Libertino and Fred Mello. They drifted live blackfish in the Inlet and had form fish on Monday as well. For fresh water fans, some nice trout coming out of the Connetquot.

EAST ISLIP

At **Peppy's Bait & Tackle,** Ireene weighed in a 4½ lb. Blackfish for George and Jonathen Dale. Ed Nowak and Larry Woodward checked in 12 tautogs to 6¾ lbs. taken on green crabs at Kismet. Some small weaks still at Heckscher on squid strips and few flounder beginning to show. Snappers are fading out of the picture but bluefishing is fine shape on the Patchogue Grounds where both jigs and bait have been working.

BAY SHORE

Flounder getting started in the state channel, and in west channel on worms said Carl Miller of **Smokey's Bait & Tackel.** A few also showing from dock at Bay Shore Marina with sone snappers and crabs. One customer on Saturday had a catch of 18 fluke and several large sea bass fishing the Fire Island Ocean Reef. A few weaks and bass being taken on eels and blackfish at the Inlet.

Bues from 2 to 6 lbs. were jigged and trolled just outside the inlet while slammers to 15 lbs. are on offshore wrecks like the Sam Kiego, REGON AND Walcott.

Niel Delanoy, skipper of the open boat **Casey Lee,** said blackfishing has been generally good on bay reefs from wrecks. Fish range anywhere from 1 to 5 lbs. Although smon big fish are mixed in. Fridays pool winner was a 9 lb. 4 oz. tautog taken by Frank Whalen of Coram. Fiddler Crabs have been the most effective bait.

Matt and John Viol with 29 fluke taken between buoys 42 and 43 in Moriches Bay on sand eels and squid combos. They left from Skidmore's Fishing Station.

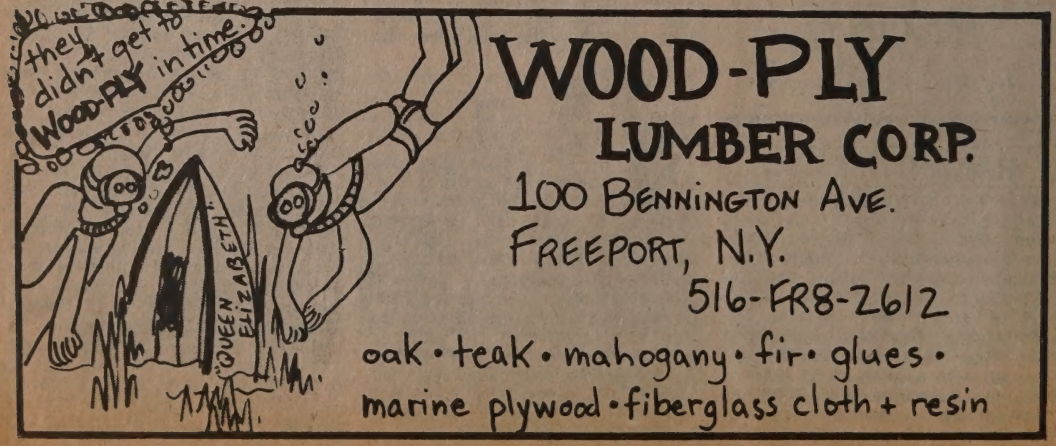
CAPTREE

Capt Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** spoke of excellent bluefishing on night trips Friday and Saturday with over 400 blues taken each night. Action had been hot on offshore wrecks and at Patchague. Sizes are mixed with fish from 3 to 15 lbs. taken each night. The **"Queen"** will continue sailiIng nightly for at least the next couple of weeks.

Still a few fluke in the Inlet but beginning this week, the skipper will mix fluke with flounder and sea bass on the A.M. trips. Last 2 P.M. trip will be Sunday, October 4.

The open boat **Capt. Rod** reported enough fluke at the Inlet to make it worthwhile. An Saturday, fares enjoyed a mixture of fluke and flounder and the Captian will continue to mix the two until the fluke depart.

Capt George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** said that bluefishing on offshore wrecks and at Patchogue ahs been excellent with 10 to 20 per man average and some Individuals bagging as many as 40 to 50. Fish



BAYSHORE

BLACKFISH
7:45 A.M.
WED.,FR.,SAT.,SUN. & HOL.

70' OPEN BOAT
FROM MAPLE AVE.
BAYSHORE

CASEY LEE

Capt. Neil Delanoy (516) 669-3937 • (516) 661-1867

The Burio family took this mess of flounder and sea bass at buoy 17 after leaving from Stiriz' Fishing Station in Mastic Beach.

range from 5 to 16 lbs. Saturday and Sunday will be the last trips sailed by the **"Scotty"**.

Noel kauppauf at tne **Bait Station** said that blacks are being taken by casters from the overlook and Moses peirs. Snappers still at the Captree pier as of Monday morning while the Jones Beach Piers have flounder on worms and a few fluke.

Word from the **Jib fleet** was of excellent black and sea bass action on Sunday. Pool on sunbay was taken by Sonny Angelico of N Babylon with a 5 lb Blackfish. New sailing schedule will be Wednesday -Sunday and Holidays at 7 A.M..

Charter boat Lady Ann fished the ocean Reef on Saturday and had over 200 mixed blacks, sea bass and porgies. On Sunday, a nice catch of blues was made at the N.A. Buoy south of the Inlet. Hi Hook had 22 choppers. Fish ranged from 4 to 10 lbs and were taken on diamond jigs.

Charter boat **Yankee III** has also been doing well with blues ranging from 3 to 16 lbs. depending on where and when. The parchogue grounds and offshore wrecks have been productive as have both bait and jigs.

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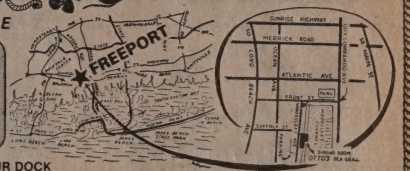

CHARTERBOAT APUS II SAILS FROM OUR DOCK

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BABYLON

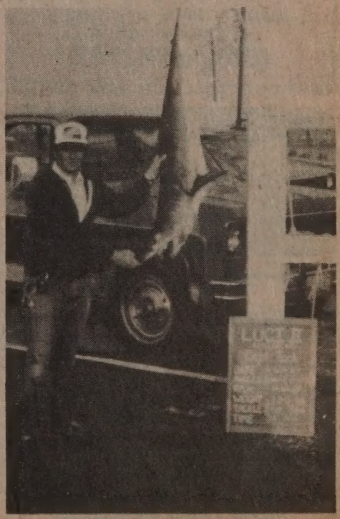
Calm Weather on Friday and Saturday enable a group of boats of boats to run to the canyon so said Ski Kochanski of **Augies Bait & Tackle.** Highlights of the fishing was the 355 lb. Big Eye taken aboard the "Obsession", caught on 80 lbs. tackle, the big tuna is a potential world record. Other boats enjoyed excellent action with Big Eyes, Yellow fins, and trive albacore. The Blue Water had an 80 lb. Wahoo as well as 8 Dolphin.

In the bay, plenty of blacks on the Kismet Reef. Ski and his wife Dolores had 10 from 2 to 3 lbs. on fiddlers. a few small flounder in the pocket at the Sore Thumb on worms.

Ski also looked over and weighed Chip Libertino and Fred Mello's catch or 5 bass to 56.10 lbs. on Tuesday and 4 on Monday.

Charter boat **Luci III** reported a good catch of blacks. Sea bass, porgies and a few Kingfish on the Kismet Reef and at W Island for a weekday charter for J Lacese and Comp. On Saturday Paul Pallidiano and friends fished an offshore wrecks and took blues from 12 to 18 lbs. along with some sea bass. The boat is currently booking Mud Hole tuna charters.

The Pooka v fished a charter from the Islandian Civic Association over the weekend. Fishing the Ocean Beach area with clams and squid, the



Jordon Russ landed this 130 lb. mako south of Fire Island Inlet while on a charter aboard the Babylon boat, "Luci II."

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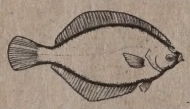

FLOUNDERS
8 A.M. DAILY

CAPT. ROD

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LEFT SIDE OF DOCK • INSTRUCTIONS FOR BEGINNERS

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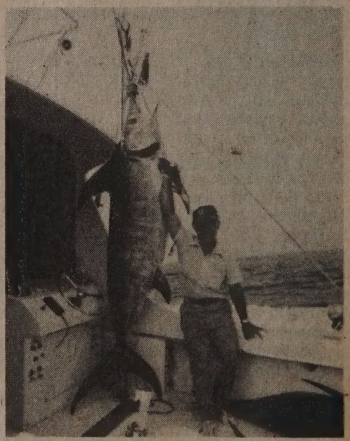

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This 286 lb. swordfish was a winner in the Squadron Angler's Canyon Tournament. The broadbill was landed by Tony Sanchez aboard the Babylon Tuna Club boat, Angel Jean. Photo courtesy of Augie's Bait and Tackle.

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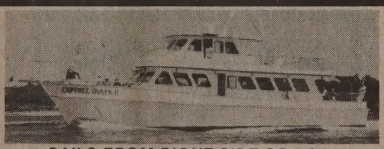

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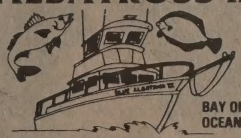

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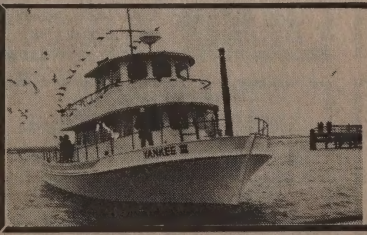

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group finished with a nice mixed bag of flounder, fluke, sea bass and blowfish.

LINDENHURST

Mike at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** said flounder made their first real appearance this weekend. On Saturday, Dave Campo took 12 flatties to 1½ lbs. on worms fishing in 6' of water off of Lindenhurst. On Sunday, Pat and Art Boza along with the Bean fished the Amity Cut and kept 50 flounder up to nearly 2 lbs. They used bloodworms and clam chum to take their fish. Going back to Saturday again, Joe and Walter Arnold and Leo Cook used fiddler and green crabs on the Rota wreck and totaled over 50 blacks to 4 lbs. Mike reminded that large snappers and crabs are still available at the Lindenhurst town dock.

AMITYVILLE

Maria at **Combs Bait and Tackle** spoke of lots of blackfish on fiddler and green crabs at the second bridge. Most fish run from 1-3 lbs. but she has weighed them up to 7. Plenty of flounder beginning to stir in the area. Maria named the Copiague hole, West Island and Massapequa as some of the better producing spots. Worms and clam chum are the ticket. There are porgies and sea bass in the State Channel on clams and squid while outside Fire Island Inlet, blues up to 6 or 7 lbs. were taken on jigs and umbrella rigs this past weekend.

Five-year-old Vincent Baielo caught his first fluke, a 5½ lber., while drifting in Fire Island Inlet. Subscriber photo.

Sandra Bleja used a jellyworm to land this 11½ lb. weak near the F.I. lighthouse. She weighed her catch at Peppy's Bait and Tackle.

SEAFORD

John at **Pop's Fishing Station** again reported a good mixed bag of flounder, king fish, sea bass, porgies, blowfish, blackfish and crabs. Action is at the bridges, Massapequa Cove and near the entrance to Zachs Bay. On Saturday, Karl Heckman and his sons Chris, Joe and Karl Jr. had 45 sea bass along with a mess of flounder, kingfish, porgies and blacks. They fished the 2nd bridge with worms, clam and mussel chum. On Sunday, Rose Terzarga, Craig Smith and Pete and Matt Swit had over 100 flounder in addition to some kingfish and blowfish. They fished between the 1st and 2nd bridges but took most of their flounder at Four Corners on the afternoon. They used worms and clam chum.

Captain Eddy's Fishing Station flounder fishing was labeled very good by Art Wright. He described a catch of over 100 blowfish and flounder made by Bill Garbarina on Saturday. Most of the flounder were in the 3/4 to 1 lb. range and were taken on worms and clam chum in Massapequa Cove. Also on Saturday Pete Kryscuk and two friends totaled over 80 flounder up to 1¾ lbs. at Squaw Island. Art figured most boats average anywhere from 35-50 flatties apiece and noted that some blueclaw crabs are also being taken on the flounder hooks. He suggested bringing along a trap or two. Blackfish in good supply at the bridges and sea bass around in good numbers as well.

BELLMORE

From **Merrick Tackle** Scott spoke of lots of flounder which he described as small but fat. Being taken on worms or mussel and clam chum throughout the Merrick Bay area. Some kingfish

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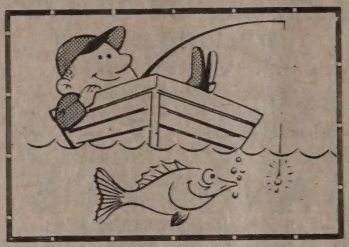

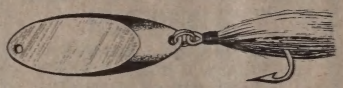

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and porgies are mixed with them. Blackfish good at the Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridge on fiddlers and green crabs. Blues being jigged by boatmen at Cholera.

MERRICK

Great flounder fishing was the work from Jimmy Boulukos of **Nick's Fishing Station.** Merrick Point, Broad Creek, the golf course and Fundy bridge have all been good producers. Worms and clams either red-dyed or natural have been effective baits. Some boats had well over 100 flatties this week in addition to some kingfish, blowfish and sea bass. Snappers still around but getting scarcer and blackfish abundant at the bridges with fiddlers and green crabs producing the best scores.

New York Bight Report

by Stu Miller

FREEPORT

captain Pat of the charter boat **Lady J III** called to say Monday's charter for Chemical Bank had blues, albies and bonito on bait and chum with a 15 lber. taking the pool off the Jersey coast. Friday's charter for the Glen Shoe Co. enjoyed a slaughter of 300 blues for 10 men, fish from 4-6 lbs. on diamond jigs fishing SE of Jones Inlet in 110' of water. saturday's trip for Elmont Fire Dept, Hook & Ladder #2 saw very good catches of flounder between the inlet and the Wantagh bridges. Catches averaged 25 good flounder a man. A 1¾ lber. took the pool for Joe Gurney. Saturday night's trip for Charlie Brostowski of Lindenhurst and group enjoyed fair bluefishing on bait SE of the inlet. Sunday's trip for Curry Chevrolet, Yorkstown Hgts. enjoyed a pick of blues on jigs.

Larry Izzo at **Mako Marina** tells of Tuesday's catch of a 700 lb. giant tuna aboard Manny Friedman's Missing Link. Aboard were Larry, Capt. Mike Miller, Bob Hodgkins and Joe m Masone and Manny. The catch was at Mud Hole west and the fish took 43 minutes to land with the fighting chair pulling out of the deck in the midst of the fray. Larry said he heard of 6 hookups over the weekend. Baldwin Bay has been a decent producer of flounder this week with Bob Hodgins accounting for 16 of them. A few weakfish at the Meadowbrook bridge at night on live buunkers. Flounders making a good showing in most spots. The first Long Island Tuna Tournament is to be held this weekend, Oct. 3 and 4. The Captain's Meeting is Friday night. There will be cash prizes in both trolling and chumming

categories. Friday night is the deadline for entries, so call Mako Marina if interested.

Captain Al has been belting away at allligator blues at Cholera with Saturday being a particularly red hot trip. Roosevelt Rogers had 15, while Willie a regular scored with 19 big blues for high hook honors. Fares are jigging these fish south-southeast of the inlet, scores averaging 5-15 choppers a man. Fish are running 8-12 lbs. Action is consisten from day to day, all big fish. Windy Wednesday ws the slowest day with a average of about 5 blues per man.

Starstream II had a very good Saturday jigging big blues in the 15-18 lbs. range with albies and bonito mixed in. They had the same on Sunday but the catches were not as great as Saturday. Friday had a very solid bluefish catch also on metal. Night trip have generally been slower.

Captain Bill sailing 2 trips a day flounder tells us the score for Nathan and Flo Kleinhandler of Flushing was 51 flounder. On Tuesday Pete Edward of Melverne scored with 37 flatties. Thirty-five flounders was the score for Dave Makowski in Thurday. Roosevelt Rogers had 38 the same day. These are 3/4 to 1 lb. fish. Sunday saw very good action at Swift creek at the start of the ebb. There are also a whole lot of 3-4 lb. kingfish in the Swift Creek area and some fluke remain also. The bridges are also holding sea bass, kingfish and small bass.

The **Super Spray II** is now switching to sea bass, porgies and blackfish sailing 7AM daily and will be working choice offshore spots. As the Oct. 4 cod wreck trip is booked solid, another trip is being scheduled for Oct. 18. See ad for details. This may the final cod wreck trip of the season, so call early as openings don't last long. Also note the boat's Wed. tuna schedule.

Freeport Boatmens Association reports that the Association boats fishing bluefish have been belting

Steve Noble and his son Mike of East Rockaway with 3 of 10 fluke to 6 lbs. caught at Ambrose Channel on spearing. Photo courtesy of Skippy's Bait and Tackle.

them hard at Cholera anywhere from 2-300 fish per boat per trip, mixed sizes. The Association boats that are flounder fishing are doing very well in local waters both in numbers and in sizes. The **North Star on** Saturday had good bluefishing SE of Jones for J. M. Haley Corp with 10 men taking over 100 choppers. Sunday's high winds and rough seas made bluefish scores on the slim side.

The **Bluefin fleet** tells of very good bluefishing all week, fish running 5-20 lbs. fishing south and SE of the inlet. Catches of 75 to 175 blues per day were had, depending on the number of people fishing. Diamond jigs did the job and albies and bones were mixed in. Nights have been productive too on chum and bait. An 18 lb. blue was taken by Lincroft, NJ angler Peter Lopez of City Bank. A 20 lb. blue was boated by Bethpage fisherman Roger Head of New Jersey and he took poll honors for the week. An accidental 50 lb. thresher shark was caught on Friday's trip. Captain Sy says he has a few flounder and cod dates available.

Fabulous flounders, says skipper Mike Dannon of the **Capt. Lou fleet** with high hooks on the all day boat in the 60s. On Wednesday regulars Dave and Neil had 110 flounders between them. On Friday, Jerry Cohn of Forest Hills and Mike Thayer of Great Neck had 187 good flounders between them. Tony Linkus on the same trip had 62 flatties while Frank Palladino was satisfied with 64 fish. John Judson of Freeport had 66. As a total Friday's 30 passengers had at 2,000 flounder on the boat. With Capt. Doug on the **CL VI**, the half day boat high hooks have been ranging from 25-30 fish and catches have been consistent . Fifty-eight flounder was the score for Paul Kelly, Massapequa Park. Dorian Kim had 52. Paula Kaiser of Seaford had 40 while Marty F. of Oceanside scored with 45 flounder. Big kings at the 3rd Wantagh along with sea bass and porgies.

The **Aloma II** fished off the Rockaways Saturday and Sunday and enjoyed a solid catch of sea bass, porgies and blacks at some secret wrecks. Please note the boat will be fishing weekends only.

Captain Walt Scott's Freeport Charter service **Acme II** tells of excellent jigging for blues SE of JI, roughly 20 miles out. Gary Ariello and group loaded up quickly. Saturday' bluefish trip for Cadre Recreation Association had a decent pick of blues. Sundays trip for St. Josephs Mens Club had a slow pick on flounder in local waters.

Captain Andy of the **Miss Freeport** tells us his customers are catching flounder on both of the two trips daily. On Friday Elaine Samuels of Merrick bagged a flattie that went over 3 lbs. taken from Swift Creek. Best catches being made in Swift Creek, Merrick Bay and at the Bridges in Swift and Long creek.

Greg Nisito, local Shakespeare Rep

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has been working a deep 23' hole at the north end of Swift Creek for a good pick on flounders this past week, the area where Guy Lombardo's used to be. Greg also had a couple hours of fast flounder fishing in the area of the 3rd Wantagh bridge late Friday afternoon on incoming water.

The **Capt. Gary** called to say Sunday's trip for blues was a bust due to high winds and monster seas. Instead, he kept his trip for Dan O'Shea and friends inside and got them a mixed bag of flounder, sea bass and porgies. Pool winner was FranK Pisdistigna of Glen Cove.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports that their skiffs returned this week and weekend with flounders of mixed sizes from Merrick Bay, Swift Creek and high flats bridge areas using bloodworms, clam and chum . Loads of blackfish on fiddler crabs in the brdige areas.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports a lot of flounder brought in from Reynolds Channel, buoy 17 Reynolds and Scow Creek. Catches were mainly on worm. Blackfish being brought back from the Meadowbrook and Loop bridge areas on clams and fiddlers.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station tells us the flounder were even better this past week in numbers and sizes with Swift Creek being the best so far. Ed says he weighed in a couple of 1½ lb. fish but they are averaging 1/2 lbs. Good quantities. Blackfishing has been very good at the Meadowbrook, Long Creek and Loop Parkway bridges with fish this week weighed in up to 6 lbs. 8 oz. Abundant sea bass and sand porgies in Seadog Creek, middle Bay and buoys 16 and 17 in Reynolds. A good school of kingfish moving around also.

Frank Del Gatto, Jr. of Staten Island shows the 12½ lb. doormat he caught on the Tin Can Grounds back in August. Subscriber photo.

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Charter boat **Marie III** on Saturday had excellent bluefishing in the morning SE of Jones in 120' of water, with a pick in the afternoon. High hook was in the 20s and fish averaged 5-15 lbs. on D/Js. Sunday's was a day charter in the bay with the slack tides at the Meadowbrook best for sea bass, porgies and flounder on worms and clam. October 12 will be a 6 man limit tuna trip. Call for details.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Clem of the **Commodore** tells us Saturday saw truly great fishing in Reynolds channel with catches running over 30 fish a man of flounders, sea bass, porgies and kingfish. Sunday saw good action in the late afternoon when the tide was right. Flounder running from ½ to 1½ lbs, but most fish are 3/4 to 1 lb on worms.

Charlie at **Beckman's Tackle** in Lynbrook says blackfish are probably the biggest news right now as they

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Two-year-old John Hanson watches over a catch of school bass made by his dad John and Kerry Ecock. All were taken in Jamaica Bay on sandworms. Subscriber photo.

are very plentiful at all the bridges and jetties in the area. Slack water offers the best catches on fiddlers and green crabs. Bass and blues being caught in the surf at Atlantic Beach, feeding on bunker and mullet. Draggers have moved in with dories and nets and wiped most of this out however. Charlie says its a real mixed bag everywhere else in the bays of sea bass, porgies, kingfish. PLENTY OF BLACKS, from 1-4 lbs.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Captain Ron Lepper of the charter boat **Kim** had an estimated 1000 to 1100 lb. giant tuna on foe 3 hrs. on Tuesday which was lost at the boat when the leader gave way. Ronnie said the fish had to be at least 11 ft. long. Action on 100-800 lb. tuna at the Mud Hole has picked up with action moving to the south of where it all started. He says it looks like a good Oct. for these big fish.

Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** says blackfishing at the Atlantic Beach bridge is excellent with more and bigger fish showing on a daily basis up to 4 lbs. hitting fiddlers best. Silver Point jetty has also been productive. Sea bass are being caught at the Atlantic Beach bridge on clam bait. Fluke about gone says Al. White bucktails are being employed foe 3-4 lb. stripers by some sharpies during the day. Try buoy 4 fo 1-2 lb. sea bass on squid and clam. Flounders have been a good item in Woodmere Bay on worms, both tides.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports Marina tells of excellent flounder action during the week when the winds were not howling. Particularly good was the railroad trestle, cement block (buoy 9), Duck Pt and buoys 1, 3 and 5 in Reynolds on worms. Chum makes a big difference. Mark Burger scored with 45 flounder to 1½ lbs. at buoy 1. Ken Meyer and son had 42 fish at the railroad trestle up to 2 lbs. The rental boats are averaging 15-25 flounders each, both tides. Blackfishing remains solid at the Atlantic Beach Bridge, The gong buoy and the 28th street wreck and fish up to 5½ lbs. on

fiddlers and greenies. A lot of small baby weakfish being taken by snapper addicts. Please return these to the water, guys and gals. Genuine weakfishing had dropped tremendously in the bays.

EAST ROCKAWAY

Skippy's Bait and Tackle tells of lots of small 2-3 lb. bass being taken on Rebels and Redfins in the wash at local beaches. Flounder very good at cement block, in Reynolds and the Magnolia Pier. They are abundant but not huge. Small blacks at the bridges and jetties and lots of sand porgies. Some fluke still around. Blues of the large variety being jigged and baited at Cholera and 17 Fathoms. Some weaks along the beach on live bait and off the jetties.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Flamingo III reports the gusty NW winds this past week put the fishing down a bit but there were still lots of albies around along the beaches and in Ambrose Channel. Friday, Saturday and Sunday blues were mixed in with them along the beaches, but it was tough to get them to hit. Instead the boat has been working the farms for a pick to 10-18 lb. alligators along with albies and things do get lively at times. When the albies do hit it's a real bell-ringer. Captain Walt expects to see striper action start at the end of August. A few weaks still around, but generally on the way out.

Captain Tom on the **Pilot II** , the area's blackfish specialist, has been having very good catches of blacks from 2-6 lbs. and porgies up to 1½ lbs. Sunday was slow due to wind and tide conditions. The catches split evenly between porgies and blackfish over wrecks and rocks.

Charter Boat **Sand Piper** has been scoring nicely on blues, albacore, bonito and weaks trolling coathangers and doing more of a light tackle routine.

Captain Tom of the **Elsie K III** says he's having the best fluking of the year to the tune of 20 fish a man on the average with high hooks going up to 40 fluke. These are 1-3 lbers. that are moving out of the bays. THe boat will continue fluking until at least Columbus Day, says the skipper. Lots of good fluking left on sand eels and spearing..The boat will be running a strictly limited tuna trip Oct. 15 and 22 with a $60 fare. See ad for details and number to call if interested.

Stella Maris Bait And Tackle reports plenty of big blues off Manhattan Beach and at the Farms while plenty of fluke are being caught at the Tin Can. Mucho blacks from 1/2 to 4 lbs. and lots of sea bass from ½ to 3/4 lbs. at the Marine Pkwy. Bridge.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santos Sport Shop** says that in the surf there are plentyof

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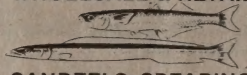

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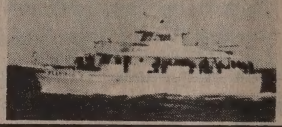

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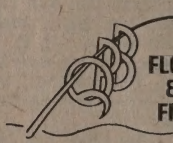

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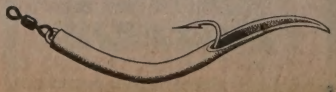
porgies snapper, and lafayettes from Old Stapleton Pier to the VZ bridge to Tottenville where people can cast out and load out. Small bass on sand worms at Penny Beach and Cliff St. on Kastmasters, Rebels and bucktails. Outgoing water best. New Dorp, Oakwood and Cedar Grove beach producing 8-10 weaks and 10-12 lb. blues on live snapper or live bunker. Hopkins and Danny swimmers are also doing it. Boat fishermen at the VZ bridge, 21 can are taking schoolie bass on diamond jigs on an ebbing tide, trolling single tubes or utilizing bucktails or worms. These are the sharpies. Worms are taking small bass at Hoffman and Swinbourne Islands. Weaks and blues off the sewage plant on sand worms, bunker or snappers or trolling, both tides. Fluke about over. Blackfish at Old Orchard lighthouse, Princess Bay and Great Kills bug light. Pier 17 is your best bet for crabs on the ebb, serious crabbers averaging 1/2 bushel for a few hours spent. Give Great Kills Harbor a crack too.

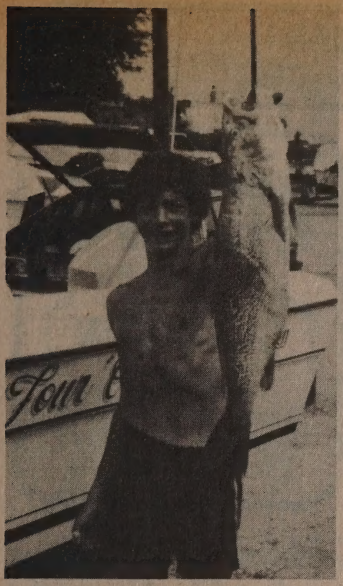


North Shore Report

by Martin Garrell

NEW ROCHELLE

John Palmieri at **John's Gun & Tackle** was still seeing big bluefish after the wind stopped last week. Bunker chunks and trolling were



Keith Kelly hefts one of several big weaks caught on jelly worms at Lloyd's Point and on the private boat, Four C's. Subscriber photo.

producing fish above 15 lbs in harbors. In deeper waters were blands of 5-8 lb. choppers, and schoolie bass were taken on trolled sandworms. There were a few big bass registered on chunks and live bunker. Snappers were sufficiently abundant to pester worm trollers.

CITY ISLAND

George Warner at **City Island Bait & Tackle** said that the big news was blackfish off Chimney Sweeps, Pea Island by the Old CBS Tower, and Execution. Tautog ran up to 4 lbs. Quite a few scholie bass have been taken on worms at night, and Rebels work, too. Snappers are thinning out and big blues were absent after the blow.

Capt. Dom of the **Apache** was hauling 15-25 porgies per man along with 25-30 blackfish between 2-6 lbs. daily. Fish are in the zone between Lloyds and Eatons, and scup run from ¾ to 1½ lbs, with larger fish in deeper water. A Saturday night bluefish charter proved especially productive off Norwalk with choppers from 2-4lbs.

GLEN COVE

Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** was still seeing some mid-teens bluefish in Hempstead Harbor, but fishing was slower. Ron Oldenburg pulled 9 bass from local points. Fish were schoolies to 6 lbs. Dark colored poppers were taking 4-6 lb. blues around DeSoris Creek, Matinnecock Point and Peacock Point. Rebels were good for spanish mackerel. Flounder, snappers, and blackfish continue to please.

HUNTINGTON

Billy Collins of the **Ever Ready** felt that the bluefishing had dropped off quite a bit awith numbers falling to 10-12 fish per man. Choppers were 3-6 lbs. The last of the night trips produced bass of 6-7 lbs. Packy Collins informed us that the night trips will be discontinued, but that the daytime (weekend only) trips will be giving the blackfish a shot after the bluefishing action dies out around 10:30 A.M. Sailings will be Sat. Sun at 7 A.M.

Ronnie Ferraro at **Ronnie's Bait & Tackle** had seen a mumber of 8-9 lb. bass and weaks around 10 lbs. off Buoy 15 along with bluefish. White bucktails with pork rind were trolled on wire in that area. Fantastic porgy fishing with scup to 1½ lbs. had broken out at Buoy 11 b, and worm trolling for bass waspicking up.

George Valentine at **Four Winds** had seen a few minxed with 10-14 lb. blues off the beaches and indicated that the best of the actiom was under the bunker schools in the Bay, around Cooper's Bluff, at the Coast Gaurad Station, and at the mouth of Lloyd's. Around Buoy 13, 2-4 lb. choppers could still be jigged. John Ambrosia trolled up a 15½ lb bluefish from the Rip, and blacks were appearing all over the area. Marshall Field, Buoy 11 b and 13 had tautog to 6 lbs.

NORTHPORT

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** noticed some big blues above 10 lbs. off Sand City on Friday Night as well as 2-4 lb. choppers off Lilco. Porgies between Buoy 11 B and 13 were in 45' of water but suzes made chumming worth while. Flounder were off to a nice start, and the harbors were still uielding snappers and bait-sized mackerel.

KINGS PARK

Helen Koliner at the **O.K. Bait & Tackle** said that the small blues in the 3 lb. class were still around the mouth of the Nisseqogue, and that there were lots of porgies coming in for local anglers. Flounders were also showing up in porgy catches.

PORT JEFFERSON

John fisher of the **Aqua Gem** expected the blackfishing to be busting loose this week. Shoreham was already pritty good for tautog ranging 4-6 lb. all the way up to Pat Coyle had an outstanding bag on Sunday with 14 blackfish among his porgies.

Candy Caraftis at the **caraftis Fishing Station** mentioned plenty of blues in the 2½ to 3 lb. class off Buoy 11 with porgies to 1 lb. off Oldfield. A few small blackfish are in the catches,

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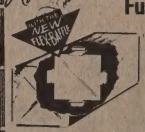

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Mike Moran and Jim Schneider with 2 bass and 16 fluke they landed in the Rips at Eaton's Neck. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait & Tackle.

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MOUNT SINAI

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** expressed worry that draggers might soon put an end to the run of big porgies to 2½ lbs. In the area. Big blackfish are already running to 6 lbs., and 2-4 lb. blues are plentful off the Middle Grounds for trollers and diamond jiggers. Johnny Hughes and crew pulled 125 fish to 14 lbs. from that area.

North Fork Report

by Martin Garrell

AQUEBOGUE

Ed Kopack at **Warren's Tackle Center** said that blackfish off the Pipeline were mixed sizes, and that blues were scattered by the winds this week.

MATTITUCK

The **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** reported blackfish in 15-25 feet of water between the Firing Range and the Motel. Best tautog of the week went 8 lbs. Small sea bass were mixed with porgies to 2 lbs. off Cooper's Rock and west of the Inlet.

NEW SUFFOLK

Newt Tobbins at **Captain Jim's** closed the 1981 season last weekend with nice catches of porgies averaging 1 lb. in the Nassau Point, Buoy 22 area. Weakfish have all but disappeared.

Ann Loria at **Captain Marty's** told us that the station there will be open until dragging befins October 5. There are still a lot of good porgies to be caught around the Radio Tower.

SOUTHOLD

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** told us that blackfish returned instantly to Mulford and the Light house when the winds dropped off. One 11 lb. tautog topped all the catches from the latter area, while the

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best fish from the former zone went 7 lbs. Some flounder to 16" and 2 lbs. were coming from the Orient Traps area and a number of winter flatties from ¾ lb. up were taken in Orient Harbor following scalloping activity. Long Beach was also producing. Big porgies from 1½ to 2 lbs. were comming from the area in front of the Orient Station.

Southold Bay Buoy 11 yielded some nice porgies and the Greenlawns and Brickyard produced good numbers of blackfish over the weekend. Most were small, but a few in the 6-7 lb. class were available.

Coe Harris at **Southold Bait & Tackle** sold quite a few Rebels to anglers exploring the Mattituck Inlet in the evenings. Seems that they were feeding bluefish in medium sizes. One party on the North Shore (the sound) hauled 9 bsss in teen sizes. A catch of big porgies was reported off the Ruins off Gardner's.

GREENPORT

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** felt that the best porgies around were still the humpbacks that the **Brand x** and **Peconic Star** were hauling offf the New London Dump ing Grounds. Both boats were filled with fares an hour or more beford normal sailing times over the week end. Bluefish are on the rampage off Green Hills East of Gardiner's, in Pigeon Rip, in the Race and the Gut. Richie Jensen was seen pulling a load of more that 80 big blues aboard the **Nancy Ann** on Saturday. Schoolie bass were reported off the beach, snappers were all around, and small flounders are already off the docks. Gull and Plum Island are prime for blackfish.

South Fork Report

by Stu Miller

SHINNECOCK

Speck's Bait and Tackle reports flounder from ¾ to 1½ lbs. are a good item on both tides at the CG station, west of the bridge, at Greenlawn and the basket area at Shinnecock on worms. Some fluke still being caught in these areas, but spotty. Very good blackfishing at the jetty on green crab. Some mixed blues at the inlet and off the beach at Shinnecock. Good porgy fishing in Noyac Bay on clam and worm with some weakfish being taken at Jessup's Neck on drifted worms. Blackfish on crab or clam off the Brickyards with mixed snappers and sea bass.

The **Capt. Clark II** reports that Cap. Clark Bellows, Jr. on the Saturday ocean wreck trip had nothing short of super fishing. Sea bass, blacks and porgies came over the rail at a steady pace. All aboard had at least 1-2 pails. Some triggerfish and silver eels were also caught. Sunday the boat was able to fish only one ocean wreck and due to strong winds had to fish in Peconic Bay to catch some blacks and porgies. Sea bass will reach their peak by mid-October. The skipper expects the wrecks in Peconic Bay to come alive with blackfish at about the same time. Another ocean wreck trip is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3 and 4.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** tells us the main dish now is flounder wiht a good sprinkling of weaks, porgies and snappers mixed in. Nick Santos and friends had just such a catch on clam and squid at buoy 17 during the week.

SAG HARBOR

Captain Artie Laich of the **Wilhelric II** called to report another solid week of the finest kind of porgy fishing which he describes as "beyond your wildest dreams." It's New London for the hotspots with Sunday being the only tough day due to strong southwest winds. Fish were mixed and were hitting on clam and squid. There were more jumbos than mediums caught. The less wind you had the more fish you put away. He estimated that for 60 fares Saturday there were 4-5,000 fish on the boat. With many anglers having over 100 fish.

Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

While there's enough life around the island's beaches to keep everyone hoping that things would break loose, there are still too many fishless trips in-between the good ones for most of us. Here's how things look after Monday's usual round of phone calls.

From Santos Sport Shop on Staten Island, John spoke of some school bass action on worms, bucktails and small tins at Cliff Street. Action is confined to outgoing water. At the South Beach storm sewers, blues in the 4-5 lb. class are being taken on chunks of bunker, while at Cedar Grove some big weaks are being taken on bunker. Loads of the big baitfish in the area according to John. Along the Princess Bay shore blues and weaks after dark on bait and Rebels or Redfins. John weighed a 13 lb. bluefish on Sunday for Lynn Di Benedetto.

bernie Haag reporting from Long Beach Sports Marina told me casters have been picking away at school bass from Point Lookout to Atlantic Beach. Fish are being taken on bucktails and Rebels. On Saturday evening, Lenny Traversa of Ocean-side culled a cow from amongst the rats by taking a 28 lber. from one of the Atlantic Beach rock piles.

Moving to the west, rumblings of a little life in the Fire Island Cedar Beach area, Mike at Lindenhurst Bait and tackle weighed a 12 lb. striper taken on an eel for John Hughes on Friday. Over at Captree Bait Station, Noel Kaupoff weighed an 11 lb. 6 oz. weakfish for Bob Smith. It was taken at Cedar. Noel added that he has weighed several big blues taken on eels from the suds taken at Gilgo and Democrat.

I heard from at least one reliable source that a few school bass have been roaming t he Moriches shore line, primarily that part belonging to the National Seashore. Fish ranging from 3-12 lbs. have been taken on small popping plugs and RedFins.

Tom at Speck's Bait and Tackle in Shinnecock reported some action with small blues along the Southampton ocean beaches on Saturday. Several casters scored well using tin. Late in the week, a few school bass picked from the jetty on the east side of Shinnecock Inlet on bucktails and Rebels.

On the tip of the island, a slow weekend for Montauk casters according to Johnny of Johnny's Tackle Shop. Just a few weaks up front with the exception of a 24 lb. striper weighed in by Ray Costanzo Monday morning. That fish came from the South side. During the week both weakfish and bass kept casters busy. Steve Bunai had the biggest striper of the week with his 40 lber taken under the light. Tom Seth clicked with a 32 lber. while Pete Furman had a 29 lber. and Al Jaegers took a 27 lber. Bait remains thick at the point, according to John and he figures it's just a matter of time before the fish are again on the beach.

Members and potential members of the Montauk Surfcasters Association should make note of the group's monthly meeting being held Saturday October 3 at the Montauk Chamber of Commerce building.

Over on the north shore, Dave at Glen Cove Sport Shop said blues and bass in the 4-6 lb. range are being taken on dark colored poppers at dawn and dusk from Matinecock, Desoris and Peacock Pts. An occa-sional larger fish is mixed in. Tom George fished Center Island Friday evening and using Rebels took 3 school bass. Ron Oldenberg, fishing Thursday through Saturday totaled 7 bass and 2 blues on poppers from local beaches. Phil Nasi who work sat the shop clicked with a couple of bluefish.

From his Four Winds Balt and Tackle Shop in Huntington, George Valentine said blues up to 15 lbs. were taken from local beaches Wednesday night, Thursday AM, Friday AM and again Monday morning. Popping plugs are taking the fish at Makamah, Caumset and Crab Meadow. Best action has come during periods of strong Northwest winds which seems to put the fish and bait right on the beach. George noted there are plenty of bunker around and a few stripers are being taken along with the blues. Most are schoolies but George did weigh 1 15 lber.

Dick of Dick's Sporting Goods in Mt. Sinai said that blues in the 10 lb. class are spread along local beaches with Miller Pl. providing fairly steady action with the choppers. Surface plugs or bunker chunks fished in the early morning or evening hours have been the ticket to scoring with fish. An occasional bass in the 7-12 lb. class is also taken.

Out on the north fork some blues ranging anywhere from 4-15 lbs. on chrome and silver popping plugs according to Ed of Warren's Bait and Tackle. Most of the action is confined to Orient Beaches. No word on any bass activity in the area but Ed did mention a good supply of bait in the Mattituck Inlet area and a lack of bait in the Reeves Beach-Roanoke Area.

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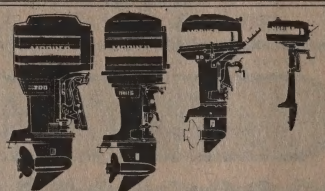

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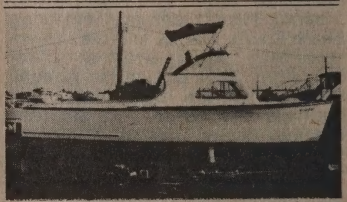

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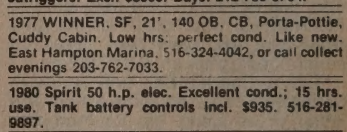

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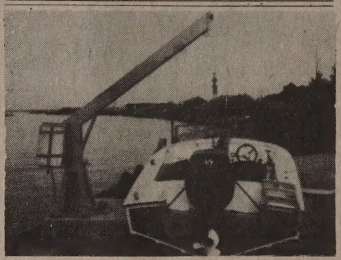
100% stainless steel marine products: rails, towers, ladders, brackets, hinges, cleats, rod holders, shafts, struts, chocks, fasteners, pulpits. Custom & standard products avail. SEABRITE STAINLESS SALES CO., 63 Morris Ave. & Hwy #35, Neptune City, NJ 07753; 201-988-8818. Send for complete catalog; cost $2.25.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 Broadway, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.

1979 Evinrude 175 h.p. 20" shaft. Excl. cond., currently in use. Low hours. Will demonstrate on our boat. 212-238-8219.



DAVITS—DAVITS—DAVITS
Most complete line of Davits & Marine Elevators. Expert installation. North Peter's Co., Inc. 516-234-8282. Tom.

TRAILER HITCHES. The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock in Long Island. Sales, Installations & Service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

Wholesale Marine Fasteners, Stainless, silicon bronze. Full line. Shop parts. O-Rings. Free catalog. ARONMARINE, 61 Mastic Beach, New York 11951; 516-281-3366.

FISHING TACKLE

MUSTAD HOOKS, Rosco swivels, stainless steel duo-lock snaps, split rings, coastlock snap swivels, brass 3-ways. Bucktail tied treble & single hooks & other products. Send $.15 for complete catalog: TACKLE ENTERPRISES, Box 1163, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742. Dealer inquiries invited; reply on letterhead.

FOUR SEASONS RIGS. Custom fishing rig manufacturer. "Night-Glow" & Hot Pink whiting & ling; also flounder corn special, Tandem red dot fluke. Hi-Lo pearl weakfish. Bluefish mullet. Over 60 different saltwater rigs. Dealers inquiries welcome. P.O. Box 1552, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742; 201-929-1881.

Whale of a Sale. Send for free catalog; enclose $.50 for handling. ADKINS FISHING TACKLE, P.O. Box 224, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

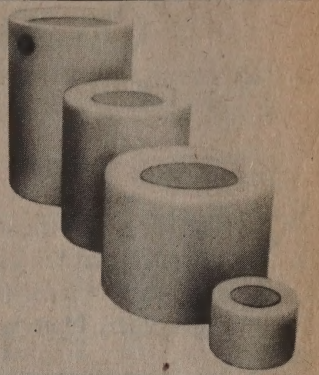
FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounders are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design & construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made finest quality material. 3 completely tied rigs for $3.50. Send check or M.O. to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

Catch more fish...with super designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, Box 437, Kearny, NJ. 07032.

LOOKING FOR REAL "REEL" PRICES? Send $.50 to Marlin Sports, Inc., P.O. Box 555, Tenafly, NJ 07670. We Carry Penn, Daiwa, Fin-Nor, Zebco, Shimano, Ryobi & more.

B-P FISHING Tackle Manufacturer—Most often copied! Never equaled! The largest selection of rigs, jigs, tubes & leaders; over 200 items. No comparison by anyone. Dealers call: 201-688-6059 or write: 22 Portland Rd., Union, NJ 07083.

FLUKE Killer Rigs—Beware of imitations. The ultimate in deadly, double hook design. Long the secret of the pros. You will hook more & lose fewer fluke since fish can't avoid fully adjustable tail hook. All hand tied; finest materials. Pays for itself in fluke dinners. 3 rigs - $3.50. P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure send $.25 P/H. The Caddy Co., 57 Bayonne Ave., Dept. L, Central Islip, NY 11722, 516-234-0144.

MISCELLANEOUS

Marine Transport—T.K.'s BOAT HAULING. You call; we haul! 24 hr. emergency service. Local & long distance; launching & hauling at any desired location. Up to 35'. Fully insured carrier. Call: T.K., 516-623-2967.

"PROVISIONS" for Galley, Camp or Cabin! "Campite" Recreation Food. Sample Meals w/info. $10. Flier's - SASE. Advent Box 18LF, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

SUMMER DOCKAGE—Now taking reservations: $16 per ft. 23' limit. Five minutes from Shinnecock Inlet. Also have a small selection of select brokerage boats for sale. SUNSHINE MARINE, 23 Rampasture Rd., Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. 516-728-1339.

SCAMP—All fiberglass, lightweight travel trailer, 950 lbs. Factory direct. Call Toll Free 1-800-346-4962 for free color brochure. Save Big Bucks!!!

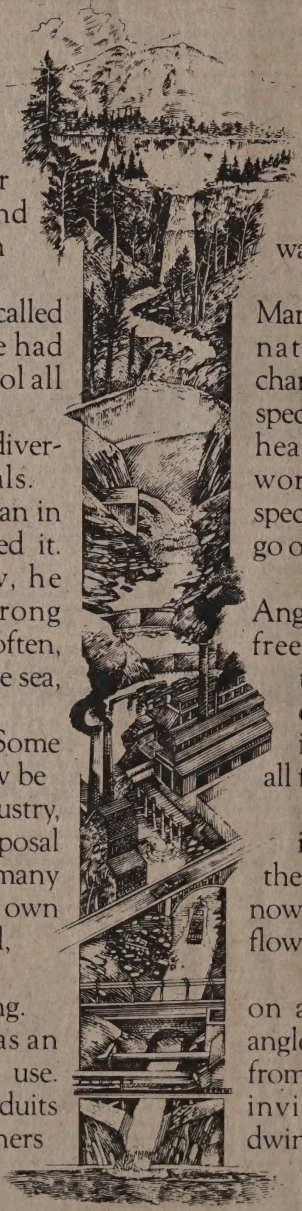
LOBSTER Business; 30' boat, hydraulic hauler, freshwater cooled Ford; 250 traps; 1,000 lb. bait freezer. Many extras. 914-235-9757.

WANTED: Old Nautical items, any condition. Clocks, barometers, lamps, locks, lanterns & related items. Eves. 516-354-2668.

EMBLEMS: Direct from manufacturer. Swiss embroidered; custom made to your design. Send sample or sketch & quantity needed for free quotation. DAVID HAEMMERLE & Sons, Inc., Box 711, West New York, NJ 07093.

STRIPED BASS BUCKLE
•SOLID METAL BELT BUCKLE
•ANTIQUE PEWTER FINISH
$7.
•LOOKS GREAT
•SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
SEND CK. OR M.O. TO
P. MILLER
150 BABYLON TPKE.
MERRICK, N.Y. 11566

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE OCEAN.



Not so long ago most of the water that fell on our continent ran downhill and back to the ocean, from which it came.

No more. Modern man called that "wasting to the sea." He had other ideas. He would control all that free-running water.

He built dams, dikes, and diversions; levees, locks and canals. Where water inconveniently ran in crooked courses, he channeled it. Where it ran too shallow, he dredged. Where it ran the wrong way, he turned it around. And often, where he did let it return to the sea, he filled it with wastes.

Up to a point it worked. Some of America's waters could now be used for irrigation, cities, industry, power generation, sewage disposal and transportation. And still many of our waters were left to their own devices, providing their natural, less tangible benefits to man.

But then the balance swung.

In many places there was an overkill of manipulation and use. Lakes died. Rivers became conduits of sewage and toxic wastes; others were turned into a series of still ponds. Magnificent streams and awesome canyons were drowned. Fresh waters turned salty.

Fish are among the casualties. Many of them chemically contaminated. Much of their habitat changed—fouled and stilled. Those special conditions necessary for the health and propagation of our worthiest sport and commercial species, gone. As our waters go, so go our fisheries.

The American League of Anglers believes that natural and free-flowing waterways are more than pleasant amenities for fishermen. Their ecological health is essential to man as well as to all forms of wildlife.

We are committed to preserving a proper balance between the need for water manipulation now and the desire for pure, free-flowing waters forever.

We act and speak for this goal on a national level. We urge all anglers, who receive extra benefits from good water, to participate. We invite all those who revere our dwindling stock of natural waters to support our efforts.

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE OF ANGLERS, 810 18TH STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet....–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	10:30	10:45	11:20	11:40	11:20	11:35	–	12:05	2:05	1:55	1:45	2:00	10:30	10:50	10/1
FRI.	11:10	11:20	–	12:00	11:55	–	12:30	12:45	2:25	2:25	2:25	2:40	11:10	11:30	10/2
SAT.	11:50	–	12:20	12:40	12:15	12:35	1:15	1:30	2:55	3:00	3:05	3:20	11:55	–	10/3
SUN.	12:05	12:35	1:05	1:25	12:55	1:15	2:05	2:20	3:35	3:45	3:50	4:05	12:15	12:40	10/4
MON.	12:50	1:20	1:55	2:20	1:45	2:00	3:00	3:10	4:20	4:30	4:40	4:55	1:10	1:35	10/5
TUE.	1:45	2:15	2:55	3:20	2:35	2:45	4:00	4:10	5:15	5:25	5:35	5:55	2:10	2:35	10/6
WED.	2:45	3:15	4:00	4:20	3:35	3:50	5:00	5:10	6:15	6:25	6:30	6:50	3:10	3:35	10/7
THUR.	3:50	4:20	5:00	5:20	4:45	5:00	5:55	6:05	7:20	7:30	7:25	7:45	4:10	4:30	10/8

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

10/2	6:58	6:41
10/3	6:59	6:39
10/4	7:00	6:37
10/5	7:01	6:35
10/6	7:02	6:33
10/7	7:03	6:32
10/8	7:04	6:30

Moonrise/Moonset

10/2	10:58AM	9:19PM
10/3	11:55AM	9:56PM
10/4	12:50PM	10:37PM
10/5	1:43PM	11:23PM
10/6	2:33PM	–
10/7	3:18PM	12:16AM
10/8	4:00PM	1:13AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/27	10/6	10/13	10/20

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	7:50	1:40	8:15	2:00
Fri.	8:40	2:30	9:05	2:50
Sat.	9:25	3:15	9:55	3:40
Sun.	10:15	4:05	10:45	4:30
Mon.	11:10	5:00	11:40	5:25
Tues.	11:55	5:50	—	6:20
Wed.	12:35	6:40	12:55	7:05
Thurs.	1:20	7:25	1:35	7:50

Warren County
I ♥ NY
Lake George Region

BIG GAME

* Black Bear *
* Trophy Bucks *
* Eastern Coyotes *

SMALL GAME

Snowshoe Rabbit
Ruffed Grouse
Woodcock

PLUS SUPER FALL FISHING

* Smallmouth Bass *
* Largemouth Bass *
Landlocked Salmon
* Lake Trout *
* Northern Pike *
Rainbow Trout
Pickerel
Walleyes

HUNT

* THE BIG 3 *

FISH

THE SUPER 5

Plan a Fall "Double Header" in WARREN COUNTY, NY

"The Big 3"...Black Bear, the famous Adirondack Buck, and the Eastern Coyote...You'll find them all in Warren County, New York on some of the best and wildest big game country in the Northeast.

Don't expect easy hunting! You get up at the break of dawn, hunt hard all day, then return to a wilderness tent camp tired and aching. Chances are you didn't score and probably won't until you start thinking "Adirondack". Oh, you'll live good, eat like a lumberjack, and bond friendships that will last a lifetime...You'll also be learning.

Then one day it will happen...A ten point buck moves across your sights, a 500 pound Black Bear steps into view or a large Eastern Mountain Coyote lopes quietly past your deer watch.

Suddenly, it's all worth it. The long hours, the aching muscles, the endless waiting is forgotten. From this time on, you stand a little taller, walk a little surer...you're now a "Adirondack Hunter".

Warren County, along with great "gunning" also offers hunters one of the longest big game seasons in the nation. The combined archery, muzzel loading, and regular deer season totals 10 weeks. The Black Bear season, which runs concurrently is open 11 weeks. The Eastern Coyote season, listed under small game, from October 24 into next March.

Special Fishing Bonus...

Warren County is known as "Grand Slam Fishing Country" by serious sportfishermen. They travel to the "Big G" (Lake George) and dozens of other high opportunity waterways each year to enjoy sportfishing at its best. In recent years hunter/fishermen have made their annual hunting safari to Warren County a "Double Header" vacation. They set aside some time to enjoy the great fishing along with their hunting. The end result, a super trip in great hunting/fishing country.

For detailed information on hunting and fishing in Warren County, New York write: **Hunt/Fish, Warren County Dept. of Tourism, 866; Municipal Building; Lake George Road; Lake George, N.Y. 12845.**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ HSKP ☐ MOTEL ☐ CAMPGROUND ☐ RANCH